FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

16 JANUARY 1985

Lebanon

Israeli Withdrawal Decision — In further comment on the decision to withdraw in three stages, Israeli Prime Minister Shim'on Peres warned of the danger of a "massacre" following the IDF's departure, noting that this is one reason why Israel has sought to reach an agreement with Lebanon and Syria, Jerusalem radio reported. Meanwhile, Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin told UN Under Secretary Brian Urquhart that Israel intends to return to the Al-Naqurah talks, which are regarded by Israeli security sources as an official channel for the technical coordination of the IDF's evacuation, according to Jerusalem television. As for the IDF's interim deployment in the Al-Litani River-Al-Nabatiyah area, the Israeli chief of staff told the television that this "will not be an exact line" in terms of IDF activities. The Israeli dailies *HA'ARETZ* and *THE JERUSALEM POST* subsequently confirmed that no permanent installations or roads will be built along the interim line. Meanwhile, the IDF will offer to sell its installations in the Sidon area to UNIFIL or the Lebanese Army, the papers noted. On the timing of the withdrawals, *HA'ARETZ* said the Israelis are planning to complete the first phase by 18 February, the second phase in April, and the return to the international border in July.

In a statement carried by the radio, Prime Minister Rashid Karami urged the Lebanese to avoid "incidents" that may be "exploited" by Israel in order to delay its withdrawal. Karami, who had just met with the UN's Brian Urquhart, also reaffirmed that Lebanon finds "no justification" for any UNIFIL role north of the Al-Litani River, adding that responsibility for security in the Sidon area will fall on the Lebanese Government, which plans to send its Army into the evacuated area.

In other reaction to the Israeli decision, Damascus radio warned that Israel will seek to retain a political foothold in the country as well as a military foothold by arming its "agents." In Cairo, the Egyptian foreign minister stated that the Israeli withdrawal will be "a step along the correct course" if it is "real and comprehensive" rather than "cosmetic," MENA reported.

Security — Two explosions in West Beirut killed 4 people and injured 26 others, Voice of Lebanon radio announced. In another development, French observers began vacating positions in south and West Beirut in response to the recent assassination of two French observers in the southern suburb, according to the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon.

Egypt

Tabah Talks — Cairo radio announced 27 January as the new date for the start of Tabah talks with Israel.

Mubarak Greece Visit — President Husni Mubarak departed 16 January for a 2-day visit to Greece, MENA reported.

Sokolov Visit — Soviet Defense Minister Sergey Sokolov will visit Cairo the end of January for talks on defense issues, according to Beirut Voice of Lebanon radio. The radio speculated that Egyptian officials will ask Sokolov to resume Soviet "military aid." Monitored Egyptian and Soviet media have not mentioned any such visit.

Iraq

The secretary of the Kurdistan Revolutionary Party's Central Committee was stripped of his party membership, the London Arabic newspaper *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* reported from Baghdad. A party statement gave no reasons for the "final expulsion," which followed last week's emergency party conference.

Afghanistan

A Foreign Ministry spokesman, cited by Kabul radio, denied Pakistan's claims that DRA planes bombed Chitral areas on 7 and 8 January. In turn, describing them as "false and mischievous," a Pakistan Foreign Ministry spokesman dismissed DRA charges that border militia fired on Chamkani and Bangash residents on 10 January, according to Karachi radio.

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'Arafat Returns to Tunis From Algeria

JN151717 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has returned to Tunis from a short visit to Algeria during which he met with Algerian officials and inspected forces of the Palestinian National Liberation Army [Jaysh al-Tahrir al-Watani al-Filastini] in Tebessa, Algeria.

Brother leader Abu 'Ammar was accompanied on this short visit by PNC Speaker Shaykh 'Abd al-Hamid al-Sa'ih and Brother Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf], member of the Fatah Central Committee.

'Arafat Sends Message to SRV's Pham Van Dong

JN151715 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has sent a message to Pham Van Dong, chairman of the SRV Council of Ministers, dealing with the latest developments in the Arab region and the results of the 17th PNC session that was held last November in Amman. The head of the PLO office in Hanoi conveyed this message during his meeting with the Vietnamese foreign minister, who affirmed his country's firm, principled support for our Palestinian people's just struggle for the sake of regaining their inalienable national rights.

Mahmud 'Abbas on Resumption of Palestinian Dialogue

JN151823 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 15 JN 85

[Text] PLO Executive Committee member Brother Mahmud 'Abbas [Abu Mazin] has announced that a new round of constructive Palestinian dialogue is being arranged between the Fatah movement and the different Palestinian revolution factions to unite the PLO and the Palestinian revolution factions.

In a press statement published in Tunis, Brother Abu Mazin said that the PLO Executive Committee delegation's talks in Prague and Moscow were important and constructive and that the socialist countries understand the PLO's stand very well. He added that during this tour, which came in response to official invitations, the Palestinian delegation presented detailed explanations of developments in the Palestinian and Arab arenas, particularly those pertaining to the 17th PNC session held in Amman in November 1984.

National Dialogue Committee Formed

PM151541 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 15 Jan 85 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Palestinian Contacts for the Resumption of the Fatah-Democratic Alliance Dialogue"]

[Text] Tunis, Amman — Mahmud 'Abbas (Abu Mazin),PLO Executive Committee member and chairman of the Palestinian Dialogue Committee, has announced that he is making arrangements for a new round of dialogue between Fatah and the Democratic Alliance to ensure the unity of the PLO and its factions.

On his return from a tour of Czechoslovakia and the Soviet Union in the company of [Fatah Central Committee member] Muhammad 'Abbas (Abu al-'Abbas), Abu Mazin said that his talks there were important and constructive and that the Palestinian delegation explained Palestinian and Arab developments to Czechoslovak and Soviet officials.

Meanwhile, Palestinian sources in Amman have told *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* that a national dialogue committee has been formed in addition to the Palestinian-Jordanian committee. They added that both committees have already begun their work.

The sources also said that the Palestinian Central Council formed recently will hold its first meeting in Amman or Tunis now that its various committees have prepared their bylaws and future plans of action for approval. These committees are: The Guidance, Culture, and Information Committee; the Accountancy and Financial Control Committee; the Foreign and Parliamentary Affairs Committee; the Legal Committee; and the Occupied Homeland Committee. They added that the Fact-Finding Committee and the Administrative Reform Committee had already commenced work earlier this week with the aim of tackling all the priorities for the next phase.

DFLP Condemns King Husayn's 'Suspect Moves'

JN151905 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Text] Commenting on King Husayn's recent tour of the Arab Gulf states, the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP], in a statement issued today, condemns these suspect moves that aim at liquidating the Palestinian cause. In its statement, the DFLP says: King Husayn continues his moves to push for his plan which calls for exchanging land for peace and for annulling the PLO's role as the sole, legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

The DFLP's statement adds: King Husayn's moves are against the Palestinian people's rights to return, self-determination, and establishment of an independent state and aim at turning the Arab-Zionist conflict into a border issue.

The statement describes recent U.S. statements on the Middle East as a blow dealt to the Arabs. The statement also calls for adopting a clear and decisive Palestinian stand toward King Husayn's plan and for beginning a comprehensive national dialogue.

Operations Against Israelis in Lebanon Detailed

JN151903 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Text] Palestinian and Lebanese nationalist resistance men are escalating their operations against members and vehicles of the

Zionist invasion forces in occupied southern Lebanon, inflicting further losses in lives and hardware.

Yesterday a group of resistance men attacked a Zionist military position in the town of Jwayya in occupied southern Lebanon. The attack, carried out with automatic weapons and rockets, resulted in the death and injury of several members of the Zionist position.

Also yesterday another group of resistance men attacked a Zionist military position in the town of Habbush. The attack resulted in the death or injury of several Zionist soldiers.

Another group of resistance men yesterday attacked a Zionist military position near Sidon, the capital of occupied southern Lebanon, with automatic weapons and rockets. The attack resulted in the death and injury of several members of the Zionist position.

A Zionist military spokesman admitted the three operations, but, as usual, declined to mention his losses. He said that his forces immediately staged large-scale search and combing campaigns and arrested a large number of Palestinian and Lebanese citizens under the pretext of connections with the resistance men, who safely returned to their bases.

BAHRAIN

Amir Receives U.S. Navy Chief 16 Jan

GF160801 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0750 GMT 16 Jan 85

[Text] Manama, 16 Jan (WAKH) — Bahraini Amir Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah this morning received in Manama Admiral James Watkins, chief of U.S. naval operations, and his accompanying delegation, who are currently visiting Bahrain. The meeting was attended by Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah, Bahraini foreign minister; and Shaykh Khalifah ibn Ahmad Al Khalifah, chief of staff of the Bahrain Defense Force. Adm Watkins arrived in Manama earlier today on a 2-day visit to Bahrain.

KUWAIT

Finnish Foreign Minister Begins Official Talks

LD141414 Kuwait KUNA in English 1222 GMT 14 Jan 85

[Text] Kuwait, Jan 14 (KUNA) — The official talks between Kuwait and Finland began at the Foreign Ministry Monday headed by Deputy Premier and Foreign and Information Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir and Finnish Foreign Minister Paavo Vayrynen.

The talks were attended by Kuwait's Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Rashid al-Rashid, the director of the minister's office Sulayman Majid al-Husayn. From the Finnish side, the talks were attended by Finland's ambassador to Kuwait Pertti Rapatti and a number of the delegation members accompanying the Finnish minister.

Shaykh Sabah told reporters that the two sides had discussed means of developing good relations between the two countries. He added that the two sides had made consultation on several issues of interest to Kuwait and Finland and reviewed the general Arab situation and the situation in Europe.

The Finnish minister earlier met with Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs 'Abd al-'Aziz Husayn who told KUNA that discussions at the meeting dealt with political issues relating to the region, particularly the Middle East crisis and the Iraq-Iran war. The possibiity of mutual cooperation in scientific and cultural fields has also been tackled at the meeting, Husayn added.

The Finnish minister then met with Interior Minister Shaykh Nawwaf al-Ahmad al-Jabir and discussed bilateral relations and a number of issues of mutual interest.

Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad held a lunch banquet at Kuwait Towers today in honor of the visiting minister and the accompanying delegation.

Vayrynen is the first Finnish minister to visit Kuwait. His three-day visit has come at the invitation of Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad.

Further on Accords Reached With GDR Delegation

LD151834 Kuwait KUNA in English 1616 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Text] Kuwait, Jan 15 (KUNA) — Kuwait and the German Democratic Republic (GDR) agreed Tuesday to exchange recognition of scientific degrees awarded in each respective country. An agreement to the effect was signed by Kuwaiti Minister of Commerce and Industry Jasim Khalid al-Marzuq and visiting GDR Minister of Construction Industry Wolfgang Junker.

The accord came at the end of a four-day meeting [words indistinct] joint German-Kuwaiti permanent commission for economic, technical and cultural cooperation.

The two sides affirmed in the minutes of the meeting that ties between the two countries had tangibly devloped since the GDR President Erich Honecker visited Kuwait and had talks with his highness the amir in 1982, according to an official source at Commerce and Industry Ministry.

The source told KUNA the German side expressed interest in bolstering cooperation with Kuwait in various areas, including the re-exporting of commodities from Kuwait to other Gulf countries and Southeast Asia.

The German side was particularly interested in German participation in construction projects at Kuwait's public and private sectors, according to the source.

Constructing railways in the Gulf countries and development projects in Kuwait such as the ports of Al-Shuwaykh and Doha were other areas where the Germans would like to take part, the source said.

The GDR delegation to the commission said it was keen on stepping up cooperation with the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research and other scientific institutions in areas of construction, fisheries and petrochemical industries, the source said citing the minutes of the meeting.

The two sides agreed that the joint commission meet in Berlin in the second half of next year.

The commission has signed earlier two accords on cooperation between the two countries in areas of telecommunications and air transport as well as a protocol on cooperation in public health for 1985 and 1986.

Aviation Agreement Signed

LD150342 Kuwait KUNA in English 1534 GMT 14 Jan 85

[Text] Kuwait and the German Democratic Republic agreed Monday to increase cooperation in fields of civil aviation and flights between the two states. According to an agreement concluded here today, the national carriers of the two countries will be allowed to operate regular flights according to agreed schedules. The agreement will provide for reciprocal privileges including the use of airspace, landing rights, fuel supplies, passenger and freight handling, and technical services.

The German Democratic Republic requested permission to operate flights from Berlin to Kuwait next summer which will be subject to a trade agreement with Kuwait's national carrier.

The agreement was signed by Kuwait's Communications Minister Engineer 'Isa Muhammad al-Masidi with his German counterpart. After signature, Al-Masidi who is also board chairman of Kuwait Civil Aviation Administration accompanied the German guest around the facilities of Kuwait International Airport.

Health Agreement Signed

LD160440 Kuwait KUNA in English 1407 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Text] Deputy Health Minister of the GDR Erlich Schneider [name and title as received] left here today after a short visit to Kuwait. In the course of his six-day visit Schneider signed an agreement for cooperation in health fields between the two countries and visited a number of Kuwait's medical institutions. According to the new protocol, Kuwait and the GDR will exchange visits by doctors and training of Kuwaiti medical technicians in Germany.

Soviet Envoy Describes Talks With Shaykh Sabah

LD160944 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0825 GMT 16 Jan 85

[Text] Kuwait, 16 Jan (KUNA) — Soviet Ambassador to Kuwait Pogos Akopov said in a statement published here today that he informed Kuwaiti Deputy Premier and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Information Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad during their meeting on Monday of the results of talks between the U.S. secretary of state and the Soviet foreign minister last week.

In an interview with the daily *AL-QABAS* the ambassador stated that his meeting with the Kuwaiti deputy premier dealt with the results of the Geneva talks on 7 and 8 January between Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and the means for developing bilateral relations between the Soviet Union and the State of Kuwait. The ambassador reaffirmed that the Middle East question and the Iraq-Iran war were among the issues discussed in detail by Foreign Minister Gromyko and Secretary of State Shultz. He added that the Soviet Union reaffirmed its previous position on both issues.

ARAB TIMES Reviews Upcoming Elections

GF151320 Kuwait ARAB TIMES in English 14 Jan 85 p 5

[Text] The Kuwait Government is taking every precaution to ensure a fair, honest and clean election for the new National Assembly set for February 20 and all necessary arrangements to hold the polls have been completed.

The director of elections and national assembly affairs, Mr Ibrahim Mohammad Ahmad, told the *ARAB TIMES* yesterday that the Interior Ministry was taking every measure to curb the trend of vote-buying by the candidates. "The ministry wants the elections to take place in a very honest way and calls on all the citizens, candidates and voters to help curb the spread of the vote-buying trend," Mr Ibrahim said. He added that the Interior Ministry was making every effort to stop vote-buying before a deal took place and would work to bring those involved to justice.

Local newspapers have recently published reports of alleged vote-buying deals and deputies have voiced their concern in the National Assembly on this trend. Official circles point out that it is difficult to prove vote-buying because the two sides involved in the deal could easily deny the charge. They said physical evidence was necessary to prove any crime.

On the arrangements made by the ministry for the elections, Mr Ibrahim said the list of voters has been completed and published in the official gazette, showing the names of the voters, their serial numbers and constituency. "The voters have been asked to approach the election department in case there is any discrepancy in the list regarding their particulars."

Mr Ibrahim said that there were 56,848 voters who will elect 50 members to the National Assembly from 25 constituencies. "The highest number of voters is in the 13th constituency (Rumathiya) and 21st constituency in Ahmadi," Ibrahim said. The ministry has set up 119 polling centres.

Mr Ibrahim declined to reveal the number of candidates as the amiri decree, dissolving the current National Assembly and calling for polls, has not yet been issued.

The election campaign is already in full swing with candidates making their views on various local issues known to their voters through press and meetings in their diwaniyas. One candidate has called for the assembly's term to be reduced to two or three years, so deputies are kept on their toes. Khalid al-Sani said that if the term was cut, then deputies would be forced to remember the voters who elected them. Al-Sani hit out at vote-buying and said the money would be better spent on the poor both in Kuwait and overseas, instead of buying "sick consciences." He also voiced his opposition to tribalism, saying that votes should go to the right man for the job and not on the basis of a tribe.

Meanwhile, another candidate, 'Abd al-Rahman Obayid, said the present assembly had no achievements to its credit, as it had merely approved projects submitted to it by the government without adequate study.

On election bribery, he said there was no law in Kuwait which dealt with this problem harshly enough. He said that in the past millions of dinars had been spent on elections campaigns, but the present elections had brought the problem into the open.

European Draft Plan To End Gulf War Reported

GF151322 Doha QNA in Arabic 0930 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Text] Kuwait, 15 Jan (QNA) — Press reports have indicated here today that the European Community has already formulated a new peace plan designed to end the Iraqi-Iranian war and to impose an economic siege on the side that refuses to take part in the peace talks.

Quoting Western sources, the Kuwaiti newspaper *AL-SIYASAH* reported that this new plan — which is regarded as the first international plan to end the war — will be presented to the two sides of the dispute after its crystallization.

The paper added that the Islamic countries will support any move, even if it were preliminary, to hold discussions between the two sides. These sources stressed that this plan encompasses a cease-fire for a limited time between the two countries, the limitation of excesses in the Gulf region and the imposition of an economic siege on the country that refuses the plan.

OMAN

Jordan's King Husayn Concludes Visit, Departs

GF151400 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Excerpt] His Majesty King Husayn ibn Talal of fraternal Jordan, and the official delegation accompanying him, left Oman today following an official 2-day visit.

His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id led the delegation which saw the Jordanian king off at Sultan Qabus' special airport.

UK's Luce Holds Talks With Foreign Minister

GF151600 Manama WAKH in English 1515 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Text] Muscat, 15 Jan (WAKH) — Omani Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Yusuf al-'Alawi 'Abdallah held talks here today with British Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs Richard Luce currently visiting Oman.

The talks centered on the promotion of bilateral relations in different fields and the recommendations of the British-Omani joint committee of cooperation in the economic and technologial fields.

The British minister is expected to hold talks tomorrow with Omani Deputy Premier for Security and Defense Affairs Fahar ibn Taymur on military cooperation between the two countries.

Luce arrived here last Sunday for a visit to Oman as part of a tour he started last Thursday with a visit to Bahrain.

Received by Sultan

GF151842 Salalah Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Excerpt] His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id received British Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs Richard Luce at the Al-'Alam Palace in Muscat today.

Present at the meeting were Yusuf al-'Alawi ibn 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs; and the British ambassador to the Sultanate.

Riyadh on Proposed U.S.-USSR Mideast Talks

LD152253 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Commentary by Husayn al-Askari]

[Text] *THE NEW YORK TIMES* reports that U.S. President Reagan's administration has announced that it has agreed to hold talks with the Soviet Union on the Arab-Israeli conflict.

It is perhaps premature to make a reasonable assessment of the possible outcome of talks between the United States and the Soviet Union on the Arab-Israeli conflict. Such talks would come after a break of several years during which the two countries did not directly discuss this issue, following the well-known changes leading to the Camp David agreement between Egypt and Israel. These changes removed the subject matter from its traditional course and led to the proposing of contradictory options.

The Israeli enemy has been seeking to impose its own option on the Arab nation as a fait accompli, which is strongly and insistently rejected by the Arabs in spite of all the pressure aimed at creating a new de facto situation. However, it now seems that both the United States and the Soviet Union nurse a guarded conviction that it is impossible to impose such a fait accompli on the Arabs, because it openly ignores Arab rights in general and the rights of the Palestinian people, the core of the issue, in particular. Perhaps such a conviction now exists because the time factor is no longer an issue to coerce the Arabs into dealing with an option they reject, because their rights have been ignored since 17 September 1978, the date of the signing of the Camp David agreement.

Attempts by both the United States and the Soviet Union to take part in discussions of the problem are evidence of the conviction of the need to deal with the reality of the mattr. It seems rather premature to assess possible results of these attempts which indicate that the agreement of the American administration to be a partner to the Soviets — a partnership which Washington was rejecting not long ago — underlines a change in the American stand that cannot be ignored, despite the fact that the United States affirms that it still rejects the convening of an international conference to discuss the Arab-Israeli conflict and bring it to an end.

One is rather cautious about the positiveness of all these signs because their credibility depends first and last on the seriousness of the intentions of the parties to the talks.

PDRY

Walid Junblatt Received by YSP Secretary

GF151750 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Brother 'Abd al-Ghani 'Abd al-Qadir, member of the YSP Political Bureau and secretary of the YSP Central Committee, received at his office this morning Brother Walid Junblatt, chairman of the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party, and chairman of the Lebanese National Democratic Front; and

Brother 'Asim Qansu, secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party in Lebanon. During the meeting they reviewed developments in the Lebanese arena and in the Arab region in general.

Brother 'Abd al-Ghani 'Abd al-Qadir affirmed the supportive position of the YSP for the struggle of the fraternal Lebanese people and their progressive and national powers against the Israeli occupation of southern Lebanon until their final, unconditional withdrawal from all the Lebanese territories according to UN Security Council Resolutions Nos 508 and 509.

Brother 'Abd al-Ghani 'Abd al-Qadir highly praised the struggle role of the National Democratic Front in mobilizing and organizing the powers and the capabilities of the Lebanese people in the struggle against Israeli occupation, the futile Phalangist separatist plan, and in the struggle to preserve national independence, unity, and the Arabism of the Lebanese people and their right to independent, democratic progress.

Brother 'Abd al-Ghani 'Abd al-Qadir hailed the developing struggle alliance among the Lebanese national resistance, Syria, and the Palestinian resistance.

Walid Junblatt expressed his great appreciation for the role of the PDRY in supporting the Lebanese national struggle. He affirmed that Lebanese national power — which achieved the withdrawal of the U.S. Marines and the NATO forces from Lebanon, and the cancellation of the 17 May agreement with the Zionist enemy — is determined to continue the struggle to end the Israeli occupation of southern Lebanon, and to abort the plots of imperialism, Zionism, and their allies which are aimed at escalating and widening the sectarian war in the Lebanese arena. He said that the firm alliance with Syria and the Palestinian resistance jointly confronts the current capitulatory projects in the region.

Brother Walid Junblatt hailed the Soviet Union's firm, continuous support for the Lebanese people and their national and progressive support to strengthen defensive capabilities. He also praised the steadfastness of Syria against imperialist aggressive threats.

Demands Israeli Withdrawal

NC160914 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 16 Jan 85

[Text] Walid Junblatt, minister of public works and tourism, has warned Israel against attempting to stay in Lebanon and said: If Israel attempted to stay through direct or indirect presence on Lebanese territory, then the resistance will continue to fight.

In a statement in Aden, Minister Junblatt renewed his demand for the complete and unconditional withdrawal of the Israeli invasion forces from Lebanon.

Regarding the Lebanese Army deployment in the south, Minister Junblatt stressed that the Lebanese National Movement supports the Army's entry into southern Lebanon.

YAR

Foreign Minister Receives Jordanian, Soviet Messages

GF151904 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Text] Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-'Iryani, deputy prime minister, foreign minister and member of the Standing Committee, received today the Jordanian ambassador in Sanaa [name indistinct] who delivered a message from Jordanian Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri.

The deputy prime minister and foreign minister also received Soviet Ambassador to the YAR Anatoliy Ivanovich Filev who delivered a message from Soviet officials on bilateral relations.

Briefs

Outgoing PLO Envoy — Brother 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani, prime minister and Standing Committee member, today received Hikmat Zayd, PLO representative in Sanaa, at the end of his term of office in the country. [Excerpt] [*Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 15 Jan 85 GF*]

'Abd al-Majid Reacts to Israeli Decision on Withdrawal

NC151532 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1516 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Text] Cairo, 15 Jan (MENA) — Egypt expressed its hope that the Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon will be real and comprehensive and not a cosmetic [insihaban madhhariyan] withdrawal so that the Lebanese Government can exercise its full sovereignty and control over all the Lebanese territories. Egypt stressed that this will be a step along the correct course.

This came in a statement today made by Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid in which he was commenting on the decision, made by the Israeli Government yesterday, to withdraw from Lebanon.

Further Reports, Comments on Mubarak's Greece Visit

Mubarak Departs for Athens

NC160852 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0840 GMT 16 Jan 85

[Text] Cairo, 16 Jan (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak left Cairo for Athens this morning on a 2-day visit to Greece at the invitation of Greek President Konstandinos Karamanlis.

The president is accompanied on this visit by his wife. He is also accompanied by Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid; Dr Kamal al-Janzuri, minister of planning and international cooperation; Dr Amal 'Uthman, minister of social insurance and social affairs; Dr Usamah al-Baz, Foreign Ministry first under secretary and director of the presidential office for political affairs; and Dr Mamduh al-Baltaji, director of the Information Department.

'Abd al-Majid on Visit

NC151525 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1455 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Text] Cairo, 15 Jan (MENA) — Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid has expressed his hope that President Husni Mubarak's visit to Greece, which will start tomorrow, will constitute a new push for cooperation and for the firm historic relations in all fields between Egypt and Greece. He hopes it will also lead to increased efforts to reactivate the process for a permanent, comprehensive, and lasting peace in the Middle East, taking into consideration the essence and basis of the problem: namely, the Palestinian problem.

In a statement today, Dr 'Abd al-Majid said that President Mubarak's visit to Greece is the first by an Egyptian president in a long time. It comes in response to Greek President Konstandinos Karamanlis' visit to Egypt last March. He pointed out that the exchange of visits between Egypt and Greece at the summit level falls within the framework of the centuries-old historic, cultural, and economic relations between the two countries.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid added that the known stand of Greece, its support for the Arab and Palestinian causes, and its role within the European Community allow it to follow up its unique role to reach a just and comprehensive settlement of the Palestinian issue.

Regarding bilateral relations, he said that there are a number of agreements that regulate the various aspects of Egyptian-Greek cooperation in various fields. He added that in view of the large Egyptian community and the number of Egyptian workers in Greece as well as the Greek community in Egypt, an agreement on social security between the two countries will be signed during the visit.

Press on Visit

NC160728 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0525 GMT 16 Jan 85

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Mubarak's Visit to Greece and the Efforts To Establish Peace in the Area," *AL-JUMHURIYAH* says: President Husni Mubarak will arrive in Athens today backed by a huge asset of traditional relations of friendship and close political understanding between Egypt and Greece. Although this will be the first visit by an Egyptian president to Greece in 27 years, relations between the two countries have continued without interruption in view of the historic friendship between their peoples — a friendship that has been expressed in waves of Greek emigration to Egypt and a desire by Egyptians to visit Greece.

AL-JUMHURIYAH adds: In addition to this, both countries' views largely agree on several important political issues including those of peace in the Middle East, the Palestinians, and peace and security in the Mediterranean basin, which the two countries overlook from the north and south.

Therefore, the talks between the two sides during President Mubarak's visit on the efforts toward a comprehensive settlement and peace in the Middle East, the security of the Mediterranean Sea, and the demilitarization of the Balkans will take place from the standpoint of rapprochement and agreement of views between the two countries.

Concluding, *AL-JUMHURIYAH* says: President Husni Mubarak's visit to Greece, which will begin today, is a step toward further consolidating these relations in the service of the Egyptian and Greek peoples, and the process for a comprehensive and just peace in this strategic area of the world.

On the same subject, *AL-AKHBAR* points out in its article today that President Husni Mubarak's visit to Greece today is of special importance for several reasons. This is because the visits made by President Husni Mubarak since he assumed office have been characterized by the fact that they not only deal with foreign issues, but also cover domestic issues.

AL-AKHBAR explains that the Middle East problem will head the topics that President Mubarak will discuss with Greek President Konstandinos Karamanlis and Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou. As for the domestic issues that President Mubarak will discuss in Greece, they are headed by the question of the large number of Egyptians employed in Greece; a social security agreement will be signed during the visit.

AL-AKHBAR also says: Then comes the subject of Greece's participation in the Egyptian 5-year development plan. Planning Minister Dr Kamal al-Janzuri, who will accompany President Mubarak during the visit, will discuss suitable ways for Greece's participation in the 5-year plan.

'Official Source' Says Tabah Talks To Begin 27 Jan

NC251310 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Text] A Foreign Ministry official source has said that the talks among Egypt, Israel, and the United States on the Tabah issue will begin in Beersheba on 27 January on the level of technical experts. The Egyptian side will be headed by Assistant Foreign Minister Ambassador 'Abd al-Halim Badawi.

AL-AHRAM Comments on Resumption of Tabah Talks

NC160748 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0525 GMT 16 Jan 85

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "We Will not Forfeit an Inch of Our Land," *AL-AHRAM* refers to Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid's assertion that the forthcoming Egyptian-Israeli meeting, scheduled to take place in Beersheba on 27 January, will be a test for the Israeli coalition government, a test that will indicate the extent of its flexibility and its desire for peace.

AL-AHRAM says: It is known that this meeting, at which Egypt will be represented by the assistant foreign minister, will focus on two basic points concerning the dispute over Tabah. The first point is the solution of the problem through bilateral talks between Egypt and Israel. The second point is to refer the problem to an international arbitration committee in the event the two sides disagree — which is stipulated in the April 1982 peace treaty.

AL-AHRAM adds: In answering a foreign correspondent's questionon whether Egypt will agree to make any concessions concerning Tabah, President Husni Mubarak was clear and categorical. He said: Can any mother forfeit one of her sons?

In conclusion, *AL-AHRAM* says: We hold on to every grain of sand of our land and we defend every inch of our national soil with the same zeal with which a mother defends her children.

'Abd al-Majid Discusses Inter-Arab Relations

Urges Arab Unity

NC151056 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1010 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Text] Kuwait, 15 Jan (MENA) — Egyptian Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid urged the Arab states to unify their stands so that they will become an element of pressure on other quarters, who must realize that the convergence of Arab ideas and the unity of the Arab brothers are inevitable.

In a statement to the Kuwaiti magazine *MIR'AT AL-UMMAH*, Dr 'Abd al-Majid said there is a convergence of ideas among Jordan, Egypt, and the PLO, and expressed the hope that the scope of this convergence will expand to include a large number of Arab countries. He said that Egypt's stand is consistent, and so is its support for legitimate Arab rights, whatever they may be and regardless of the passage of time. In this connection, he referred to Egypt's support for the Palestinian cause and for Iraq, describing it as support for the Arab cause and for all the Gulf states in this sensitive region.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid explained that Egypt's relationship with the Arabs is fundamental and cannot be severed, regardless of the circumstances and reasons. He said that the subject of convening an Arab summit to discuss the restoration of relations with Egypt is left to each state to decide for itself. However, Egypt does not accept and does not impose conditions for its relations with the Arabs.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid denied that PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat had visited Egypt following his December 1983 visit, but he affirmed that contacts are being maintained with 'Arafat on what are considered joint issues.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid denied that the question of a Palestinian government-in-exile has been discussed. He said that contacts are continuing between Jordan and 'Arafat and that Egypt is being briefed on the developments in these contacts, but that the subject of a government-in-exile has not been mentioned or discussed.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid affirmed that France's position [as received] on the Palestinian issue has not changed.

Rejects Conditions for Ties

NC151746 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1640 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Cairo, 15 Jan (MENA) — Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid has asserted that Egypt neither makes nor accepts conditions for restoring relations with Arab countries. He said that Jordan's step in restoring relations with Egypt was bold and in the right direction, and that relations between Egypt and Jordan are no less important than integration between them. This statement was made during an open meeting held by the National Democratic Party yesterday.

Asked about the campaign launched by Libya and Syria against Sudan, 'Abd al-Majid said that Egypt opposes campaigns against Sudan.

Dr Mustafa Kamal Hilmi, deputy prime minister and minister of higher education and scientific research, in answer to questions by certain NDP members, said that the savings of skilled Egyptian workers in the Arab world and friendly countries exceed our oil production revenue.

AL-MUSAWWAR Interview on Mideast Issues

PM151625 Cairo AL-MUSAWWAR in Arabic 11 Jan 85 pp 30,31

[Interview with Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid by Majid al-Daqqaq in Cairo — date not given]

[Excerpts] Question: Dr 'Ismat, what were the most important results of the ICO conference?

Answer: The recent session has consolidated Egypt's membership in the ICO, which resumed after the Islamic summit in Casablanca, Morocco, particularly since the Iranian-Syrian-Libyan troika tried to include two topics in the agenda aimed at casting doubt on the legality of Egypt's return to the ICO.

Question: Does Egypt's call for convening an international conference to solve the [Middle East] crisis mean that is has abandoned its international commitments?

Answer: Never. Egypt always respects its commitments and considers this as part of its tradition and as its method of action. However, this does not mean that if we cannot achieve a specific goal, which is a just and honorable peace, by a particular path that we should close the doors leading to all the other paths. When I speak about an international conference, I am speaking about Security Council Resolution 338. Therefore an international conference is not an invention. It was proposed in October 1977, met in December of the same year in Geneva, and was attended by Syria, Jordan, Israel, Egypt, the United States, and the Soviet Union. The conference supervised the disengagement of forces on the Egyptian and Syrian fronts. It did not continue with its work but we can say that it is one of the methods of solving international problems. It is not an invented method.

Question: What then is your view of the form of joint Egyptian-Jordanian-Palestinian action in light of the restoration of Egyptian-Jordanian relations and the Egyptian-Palestinian rapprochement?

Answer: All I can say is that this was the beginning of an intellectual rapprochement and of understanding and consultations between the parties concerned with the problem; it is preparatory to reaching understanding with the other countries, whether the United States, Israel, or the EC. This is one of the ways of settling the problem peacefully.

Question: What is the state of relations between Egypt and Israel?

Answer: President Mubarak has often reiterated Egypt's stand and the Israeli side is well aware of it. We want Israel to honor its commitments and to take steps that would help restore the situation between us to normal. As the world knows, we have always been demanding the following:

The return of Tabah;
Israeli withdrawal from southern Lebanon, here I am talking about actual and not formal withdrawal;
The rights of the Palestinian people.

The Israeli side must understand all these matters. Israel must understand that Egypt is an Arab state linked to the Arab world and is affiliated to the Arab and Muslim world. No party should tell Egypt to pursue a policy that does not emanate from this concept.

Question: What does Cairo expect from Moscow?

Answer: We can say that following the return of ambassadors and particularly since the restoration of normal relations based on mutual respect, we exchange consultations.

The Soviet Union is a superpower and I believe that the Soviets quite understand the Egyptian attitude. We hope that Soviet participation will contribute to the peaceful solution of the problem and to the establishment of peace in the area because this is in the interest of all of us and the cause of world peace.

Question: What about the U.S. role?

Answer: We hope that the U.S. role will be dynamic and effective and that President Reagan, now that he has the elections behind him, will, given that the United States is a full partner, give momentum to the peace process. This is my view of the U.S. role.

Publishers Protest Israeli Presence at Book Exhibition

PM141431 Cairo AL-AHALI in Arabic 9 Jan 85 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Democratic Parties, Unions, Organizations, and Writers Protest Against Israel's Participation in Book Exhibition"]

[Text] Israeli Ambassador Moshe Sassoon has conveyed to the Foreign Ministry his government's thanks to Egypt for agreeing to Israel's participation in the 16th international book exhibition due to open on 23 January at the exhibition ground in Cairo. The Foreign Ministry has offically announced Israel's participation in the exhibition.

The representatives of several parties, trade unions, and popular organizations have expressed their protest over the resumption of normalization steps with Israel at a time when the Zionist enemy's barbaric crimes are increasing, its actions being condemned by world organizations, and the United Nations is calling for its boycott.

Seven Egyptian publishing houses so far have decided to boycott the exhibition and withdraw. These are: Al-Mustaqbal al-'Arabi, Al-Thaqafah al-Jadidah, Al-Mawqif al-'Arabi al-Ghad, Alif, Al-Wafa, and Shahdi. Most of the Egyptian publishing houses have also agreed to sign a statement protesting against Israel's participation in the exhibition. The attitude of the other countries and Arab publishing houses toward participation in the exhibition is not known yet.

A meeting hosted by the cultural committee at the Press Syndicate and attended by representatives of Egyptian writers and professionals associations has resulted in the drafting of a statement condemning Israel's particpation in the exhibition and

demanding that Egyptian officials withdraw approval for Israel's participation in the exhibition and calling on the Egyptian publishing houses either to boycott the exhibition or to fly Palestinian flags on their pavilion if they do participate. It also calls on citizens to boycott the Israeli pavilion.

The conferees decided to negotiate with the Bar Association and the Press Syndicate so that they may hold similar exhibitions at their headquarters in which all the boycotting publishing houses would participate. The exhibition is to include a week devoted to exposing dangers of Zionist invasion. Contacts are under way with Egyptian parties and representatives of professional and workers unions, university professors, and publishing figures in order to sign the draft statement so that it expresses the views of broad public opinion opposing the normalization of relations with the enemy.

Communique No 1,712 on 14-15 Jan Operations

JN151724 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 15 JAN 85

[Communique No 1,712 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 15 January 1985]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

With unflinching determination, Iraqi soldiers will continue to defend the pure Iraqi soil, rights, and national sovereignty. The following is a roundup of activities by our units yesterday evening and today:

1. Our forward units, using artillery and other types of weapons, dealt several fierce and effective blows to enemy positions, troop concentrations, and engineering equipment in the operational sector east of Basra, killing one enemy soldier and destroying three enemy vehicles and one enemy observation post. Several of the occupants of the observation post were killed.

2. Our forward units opened tank and artillery fire on enemy positions, observation posts, and artillery positions in the Maysan sector, scoring direct hits and killing four enemy soldiers, destroying one medium machine gun and one enemy observation post, and disrupting enemy engineering activities.

3. Three enemy troops were killed and one infantry position and one machine gun position were destroyed in the Central sector.

4. New groups of Iranian military personnel sought refuge with one of our forward units in the northern sector of the battlefield and were safely evacuated to the rear.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 15 January 1985

UN Official Cited on POW Investigation Progress

JN151023 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0844 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Text] United Nations, 15 Jan (INA) — A spokesman for UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar has stated that the international committee investigating the situation of POW's in Iraq and Iran is continuing its work in Iraq with utmost satisfaction. In a statement read to reporters at UN headquarters last night, the spokesman said that the three-man committee met with Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and a number of Iraqi officials after arriving in Baghdad last Friday to discuss arrangements for the visit. He said the Iraqi Government has reiterated its intention to fully cooperate with the UN secretary general and the international committee and to render to them all reasonable services required to facilitate their mission. The spokesman pointed out that the committee visited five Iranian POW camps in various parts of Iraq yesterday.

The committee is scheduled to leave Baghdad for Iran next Thursday to continue investigating the POW situation in the two countries. It will then submit a report on its findings to the UN secretary general.

It may be mentioned that the committee was formed at the Iraqi Government's request after a number of Iraqi POW's were killed at the Iranian Gorgan prison camp on 10 October last year.

Kurdistan Party Dismisses Top Officials

PM151743 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 15 Jan 85 p 1

[Qasim al-Samawi report: "Iraqi Kurdistan Party Secretary Dismissed"]

[Text] Baghdad — It was announced in Baghdad yesterday that 'Abd al-Sattar Tahir Sharif, secretary of the Central Committee of the Kurdistan Revolutionary Party (which is a member of the Iraqi National and Patriotic [Wataniyah] Front) has been dismissed from the party's Secretariat and stripped of party membership, along with another Central Committee member — Isma'il Muhammad 'Abd al-Qadir.

The dismissal, described as final expulsion, came on the heels of an emergency conference held by the party last week. Details of its resolutions were published by the newspaper *AL-IRAQ*, mouthpiece of the Iraqi Kurdish parties.

It is worth noting that 'Abd al-Sattar Sharif was one of the main leaders of the Kurdish Democratic Party before breaking away from it some years ago to form the Kurdistan Revolutionary Party. Until a year ago he held a number of ministerial posts — the most important of which were transport minister and state minister — and was a member of the previous National Assembly.

The conference elected Central Committee member Majid al-Jabbari as the new secretary general of the party. He also holds the post of deputy chairman of the Iraqi Trade Unions Federation.

The statement issued by the party did not give the reasons for the dismissal of Sharif and his colleague. It just said that the party congress supported the decision in a plenary session held last Saturday.

Percy Meets With King Husayn, Departs 13 Jan

JN141534 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic
14 Jan 85 pp 24, 19

[Text] Amman — Senator Charles Percy and his wife left Amman yesterday after a 1-day visit to Jordan.

Senator Percy, who had earlier visited Saudi Arabia, Qatar, and Bahrain, during his visit met with His Majesty King Husayn in Aqaba. He also met with Armed Forces Commander in Chief al-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri, and Court Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah at a luncheon held in his honor by U.S. Ambassador Paul Boeker.

During his meeting with the Jordanian officials, Senator Percy expressed Reagan's respect and admiration for His Majesty King Husayn and reiterated his country's commitment to support Jordan in efforts aimed at establishing peace in the region.

King Husayn Returns From 3-Day Gulf Tour 15 Jan

JN151625 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT
15 Jan 85

[Excerpt] His Majesty King Husayn returned to the homeland this afternoon after a 3-day working visit to Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, and Oman. During his visit his majesty held talks with the leaders of those countries within the framework of consultations and coordination with Arab leaders as part of Jordan's constant effort to serve Arab causes and important joint interests.

King Husayn and His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id held a meeting in Muscat this morning to fully evaluate the various dimensions of the current Arab situation in light of the latest developments in both the Arab and international arenas. King Husayn also explained the results of his talks with the fraternal Arab countries' leaders. Their majesties also reviewed their close bilateral relations and brotherly joint cooperation in various fields.

'Arar, PLO's Al-Wazir Discuss Palestinian Issues

JN152028 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT
15 Jan 85

[Text] The joint Palestinian-Jordanian committee for bolstering the steadfastness of our Palestinian people in the occupied homeland held a meeting in the Jordanian capital, Amman, yesterday. During the meeting, the committee discussed some of the proposals listed on its agenda.

The committee discussed the issue of Jerusalem and the electricity company there, and some housing requests submitted to the committee, and also adopted appropriate decisions on the issues that were submitted.

The meeting remained in open session, and other sessions will be held next week. The Palestinian side was headed by Brother Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, and PLO Executive Committee members Muhammad Milhim and 'Abd al-Rahim Ahmad.

The Jordanian side was led by Sulayman 'Arar, deputy prime minister and minister of interior, and comprised Shawkat Mahmud, minister of occupied territories affairs, and Dr Jawad al-'Anani, minister of industry and trade.

'Arar Comments on Ties With Neighbors, PLO

PM161107 Cairo AL-MUSAWWAR in Arabic
11 Jan 85 pp 13-15

[Interview with Sulayman 'Arar, Jordanian deputy prime minister and minister of interior, by Sana' al-Sa'id — date and place not given]

[Excerpts] Question: Israel is looking for a serious partner to negotiate a settlement in the Middle East. Can Jordan be this partner?

Answer: I do not know who can establish the truth of that. Israel is not a serious partner and is therefore not looking for a serious partner. Rather, it is looking for parties that will succumb to it and comply with its demands and conditions and the fait accompli that it imposes. It will not find one in Jordan, which will never be that kind of partner for Israel.

Question: When Shim'on Peres offered Jordan peace negotiations, Jordan expressed doubts about the Israeli offer right from the beginning and Jordanian officials said that the offer was deceitful, misleading, and lacking in seriousness. Do you still believe so?

Answer: First I must say that there are resolutions that have been adopted by the Security Council. So let Shim'on Peres comply with them first if he is serious. Better still, several initiatives have been put forward, including the Reagan initiative. Neither Peres nor Israel has accepted this initiative so far. How can Peres invite me to believe him when he rejects simple and straightforward solutions and proposals which we have accepted despite everything? The obvious fact that is clear to all is that Israel is building and reinforcing settlements in the occupied territories and does not want peace. We look at the reality and appraise the situation accordingly. So we see Peres' invitation as a misrepresentation and a deception. It has been made only to distract attention and merely to gain time.

Quesiton: Do you believe that the United States is taking part in this misleading action, particularly since its attitude to the question of settlements is indecisive and weak?

Answer: The U.S. attitude to the question of settlements and Jerusalem is not indecisive and weak; it supports Israel. The United States does what Israel wants. We do not see in the various U.S. attitudes any real progress toward a peaceful solution. Rather, we see that all its stands are based on submitting to and accepting the fait accompli which Israel is creating by force. This is contradictory to what the United States has often declared. It is also contrary to Security Council resolutions which the United States itself played a major role in drafting.

Question: If the Reagan initiative has reached stalemate and is not implementable, what about the Fes initiative? Why not

concentrate on it, particularly since it accords with Palestinian aspirations? Why the international conference? Is this not looking for the impossible?

Answer: If we say that an international conference is impossible, then peace is impossible. Anyone eager to seek peace should seek it through bringing together all the parties and all those concerned with the area. As for the Fes summit plan, this was carried to the whole world by the Jordanian monarch and by King Hassan of Morocco. It is still an open initiative and we were hoping that it would be put into effect.

Question: It is said that Jordan deepened the rift between 'Arafat's front and the pro-Syrian front when it embraced 'Arafat and his aides. I wonder: How far will Jordan go in this respect, given the fact that in the end the rift will only serve Israel?

Answer: The fact is that Jordan's relations with the PLO leadership — the legitimate leadership — go back much earlier than any rift. We have nothing to do with the rift and we have not contributed to it. The country that gives refuge to the dissidents is known. But Jordan, like the rest of the Arab countries, recognizes only the legitimate Palestinian leadership on which the majority agrees. Therefore, accepting this legitimate leadership does not mean deepening the rift. The dissidents must realize that the Arab masses do not agree with their dissension.

Question: Will not Syria become more bitter following the diplomatic setbacks it has suffered? I mean the convening of the 17th PNC session and the resumption of relations with Egypt. I wonder if Jordan is in fact seeking to establish a bloc hostile to Syria?

Answer: My dear lady, Jordan has never sought or tried to whip up hostility toward Syria. On the contrary, Jordan would like to see good relations among all the Arab countries — brotherly and fraternal ties. But it was the brothers in Syria who turned against Iraq and stood with Iran, which is in a state of war with Iraq and committing aggression against the Iraqi people. If this situation is rectified and if Syria changes its attitude to Iraq, relations will be put right. If Syrian-Iraqi relations were today in accordance with Arab pacts, including the Arab Joint Defense Pact, we would not have been in this situation and in this position toward Syria. Yet it is Syria that takes the initiative of creating and supporting opponents with the aim of creating problems for Jordan. Nevertheless, we still say that the doors are open and will remain so for the restoration of normal relations between us and Syria, if the Syrian brothers will change their methods and their attitude and return to the Arab Joint Defense Pact and to uniting the Arab front against the common enemy, Israel.

Question: With regard to Jordanian-Egyptian relations, it is said that Jordan and Egypt still hold different views regarding U.S. policy in the area. While you do not believe that the United States represents the only axis in the peace process in the area, Egypt disagrees with your views and looks on the United States as the full partner in the peace process.

Answer: I do not see anything new in this. I am not sure how correct the things you say are. As far as Jordan is concerned, we believe that, if we want real peace, all the influential Arab parties and foreign parties should take part in it. The Soviet Union definitely has a real presence in the area and has an interest in the matter.

Question: You keep involving the Soviet Union as if it had actually come forward and played a role.

Answer: The Soviet Union has already made statements and offered initiatives, similar to the Jordanian monarch's initiative, on an international conference. It has expressed its views by accepting that. So it is ready to assume its role.

Question: What would you expect from the United States in the coming months in terms of doing what you want?

Answer: We would like it to stand on the side of justice. The United States cannot be an impartial umpire as long as it supports Israel with arms and money, as well as with unlimited political support in the international field. As long as it behaves the way it is behaving now, its interests are bound to clash with those of its friends in the area. We would like the United States to be on the side of justice and to listen to the voice of Justice. Arab rights have been usurped, and giving Israel all these arms and funds will in no way serve Arab interests or, consequently, U.S. interests or the interest of peace in the area.

Al-Masri Receives Japanese Official 15 Jan

JN160928 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 16 Jan 85 p 28

[Text] Amman — Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri has received Wasuke Miyake, director general of the Middle Eastern and African Affairs Bureau in the Japanese Foreign Ministry. They discussed the Middle East and the Iraq-Iran war.

During a meeting with Miyake yesterday, Al-Masri stressed the importance of holding a UN-sponsored international conference for peace in the Middle East to be attended by all parties to the conflict, including the PLO, the Palestinian people's sole and legitimate representative. Al-Masri pointed out that this conference is the best basis for settling the issue. The talks also dealt with bilateral relations and ways to promote them.

Miyake arrived in Amman yesterday from Cairo on a short visit as part of a tour of Saudi Arabia, Turkey, and Algeria.

Joint Economic Talks Begin With Swedish Delegation

JN141700 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 14 Jan 85

[Text] Amman — Economic and trade talks between the Jordanian side headed by Industry and Trade Minister Dr Jawad al-'Anani and the Swedish side headed by External Trade Minister Mats Hellstrom began at the Industry and Trade Ministry today.

At the beginning of the talks, Dr al-'Anani reviewed Jordan's economic situation in light of the 5-year plan which will end at

the end of this year, Jordan's economic achievements, and the growth rate. The minister explained cooperation aspects between Jordan and Sweden and the Jordanian viewpoint. The two sides discussed bilateral relations, particularly cooperation to establish joint projects in the industrial, trade, economic, culture, and education spheres.

Hellstrom Meets Prince Hasan

JN151414 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 15 JAN 85

[Text] Amman — Crown Prince Hasan, the regent, received in his office this morning Swedish External Trade Minister Mats Hellstrom, who is currently visiting Jordan.

They discussed bilateral economic relations and ways of cooperating in transferring modern technology. Industry and Trade Minister Dr Jawad al-'Anani and the Swedish ambassador in Amman attended the meeting.

Prince Hasan Receives ICO Science Delegation

JN151253 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Text] Amman — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan, the regent, received an ICO delegation today led by Dr Kazi, the Pakistani president's adviser for scientific and technological research. The delegation conveyed a message to His Majesty King Husayn from the Pakistani president in his capacity as chairman of the ICO Permanent Ministerial Committee. The delegation also conveyed a message to the king from Turgut Ozal, Turkish prime minister and chairman of the Islamic Scientific Committee for Science, Technology, and Development. The two messages deal with implementing the scientific and technological plan adopted by the fourth Islamic summit. The plan aims to strengthen scientific and technological cooperation among Islamic countries and calls for establishing a number of scientific centers and for completing a number of projects within the next 5 years.

The delegation consists of Dr 'Ali Kittani, general director of the Islamic Institute for Science, Technology, and Development, and Dr Sadoq Ben Jomaa, former Tunisian transport minister. The planning minister and the Pakistani ambassador in Amman attended the meeting.

Al-Lawzi Confers With Members of French Senate

JN141924 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 14 Jan 85

[Text] Amman — Senate President Ahmad al-Lawzi received a number of French Senate members in his office today. The talks revolved around the situation in the Middle East, the effects of the Israeli aggression against the occupied Arab territories, and the role France and the European countries should play to achieve a just and comprehensive solution which will end the occupation and enable the Palestinian people to practice self-determination on their national soil.

Brief

Ambassador to Italy — A royal decree has approved the appointment of Salih al-Zu'bi as Foreign Ministry secretary general and Tariq Madi as Jordan's ambassador to Italy. [Text] [*Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 13 Jan 85 p 1 JN*]

Reportage on UN Under Secretary Urquhart Visit

Urquhart Comments on Mideast Mission

NC151008 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Excerpts] Following his arrival at Beirut Airport before noon today, UN under secretary Brian Urquhart and his assistant Mr Aime went to the Foreign Ministry in Al-Ashrafiyah and met at 1145 with Foreign Ministry Secretary General al-Turk in the presence of ambassadors Makkawi and Shidyaq. The meeting lasted until 1300. After the meeting, the following dialogue took place between Urquhart and newsmen:

He was asked: Do you have new proposals?

He replied: No, we have no new proposals. Our role is not to present new proposals. This is the responsibility of the parties concerned, especially the Lebanese Government and, of course, the Israeli Government. Our offer is to try to help and to occasionally present some proposals.

He was asked: Following your visit to Israel and your meeting with Yitzhaq Rabin, can you give us an idea about the negotiations?

He replied: It is premature to comment on these negotiations. I will meet with President al-Jumayyil and prime minister Karami this afternoon, and then I will return to Israel. Before that, it is unwise to draw certain conclusions. As you know, it is a long and complicated process, and we must wait and see how the present situation can develop positively in favor of Lebanon in light of the new conditions, and how can we achieve something positve, especially in that the Lebanese territory is the focus of our discussions.

Asked whether the talks will be resumed in Al-Naqurah, Urquhart said that another meeting will be held in Al-Naqurah, but we cannot say when because this depends on other factors.

He was asked: Has the Lebanese Government submitted a proposal regarding the deployment of the UN forces north of the Al-Litani?

He replied: This matter was a subject of discussion during the past rounds of Al-Naqurah negotiations, and it is one of the subjects which we will be discussing. The deployment of the UN forces in any part of Lebanon is primarily up to the Lebanese Government. It must consider the matter and submit a request to the UN secretary general. He will in turn submit it to the UN Security Council.

Are you happy about the Israeli Cabinet decision? He was asked.

Urquhart replied: We must take things as they come. This decision constitutes an important development.

Asked when he will be leaving the area, Urquhart said: I shall remain in the area until Monday morning. I will then leave for London to meet with the UN secretary general and to hold some talks with him.

He was asked: Has Syria submitted through you or through any other party any guarantees for Israel to facilitate the withdrawal decision?

He replied: No, the Syrian Government has not submitted any such guarantees. Anyhow, I will be visiting Damascus tomorrow.

Karami Statement on Talks

NC151839 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Text] A meeting was held in B'abda Palace between President Amin al-Jumayyil, Prime Minister Rashid Karami, UN Under Secretary Brian Urquhart, and UN Assistant Under Secretary Jean-Claude Aime at 1700 today. The meeting ended at 1815. After the meeting, Mr Urquhart said that the talks with President al-Jumayyil and Prime Minister Karami were useful. They dealt with the recent Israeli decision to withdraw from Lebanon in stages. In a statement he made after the meeting, Prime Minister Rashid Karami said:

[Begin recording] [Karami] Our meeting with Mr Urquhart involved an analysis of the recent Israeli decision to withdraw from the south in three stages. As is known, the first stage will be up to Al-Zahrani and Al-Nabatiyah. This withdrawal will take place within 5 weeks. The second stage will be from Al-Zahrani to Hasbayya. The third stage will be up to the international border. The timetable for this withdrawal is not clear. It is not possible to absolutely depend on this process, because no details are available about it.

Regarding the first stage, which will be carried out within 5 weeks, this perhaps means leaving the initiative with Lebanon and the United Nations. Lebanon has adopted a principled stand regarding this. We find no justification for any role that the UN emergency forces could play north of Al-Litani. Our position will be the same even if Israel withdraws without an understanding being reached through the Al-Naqurah talks. In this case, no responsibility falls on us except to ensure security for our citizens in this area. This is what we are seeking through the implementation of the security plan up to the Al-Awwali. We intend to be at the gates of the south so our Army can enter any area evacuated by the enemy.

In this regard, we wish to reassure everyone regarding the patriotism and conscientiousness of the people of the south through the resistance they are displaying. This conscientiousness will not allow any incidents that may be intended from this withdrawal to occur. Therefore, it is a historic chance through which the Lebanese will prove their nobility and solidarity to liberate the south, western Al-Biqa', and Rashayya, leaving no room for incidents that may be exploited to delay the withdrawal and extend the occupation. God forbid that this is being contemplated by any Lebanese.

Therefore, the government is determined to continue working to achieve its major and fundamental objective — Israel's withdrawal from our sacred land, whether unilaterally or through the Al-Naqurah talks.

[Unidentified reporter] Mr Prime Minister, regarding the recent Israeli stand, do you think that the resumption of the Al-Naqurah talks is possible?

[Karami] Actually, the answer to this question will be provided at the conclusion of the consultations between us and the United Nations and through Mr Urquhart.

[Reporter] Has Mr Urquhart conveyed to you any specific compromise proposals between the Lebanese and Israeli positions?

[Karami] It is difficult to answer this question now. One must wait until the conclusion of the talks. [end recording]

Urquhart Leaves for Damascus

NC161030 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 16 Jan 85

[Text] Brian Urquhart, UN under secretary general for political affairs, left Beirut at 1115 this morning for Damascus aboard a special plane to conclude his talks with Syrian officials concerning the Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon, following the suspension of the Lebanese-Israeli military talks.

Al-Naqurah Talks 'Probably' To Resume 17 January

NC161216 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 16 Jan 85

[Text] It was reported that the Al-Naqurah talks will probably be resumed tomorrow. This month's chairman of the UN Security Council, the French delegate, was cited as saying that the 12th round of talks will be held in Al-Naqurah tomorrow. It has also been learned that UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar had informed the UN Security Council's members of the resumption of the Al-Naqurah negotiations tomorrow, Thursday, and that at tomorrow's session Israel will present a plan for the withdrawal from Lebanon to the Lebanese delegation.

President Al-Jumayyil Briefs Factfinding Committee

NC161323 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1250 GMT 16 Jan 85

[Text] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil has briefed members of the Information and Factfinding Committee for the Liberation of the South, Western Al-Biqa', and Rashayya, on the current contacts with the United Nations to revive the military negotiations in Al-Naqurah following the Israeli Government's decision to withdraw from Lebanon in phases. President al-Jumayyil also emphasized the importance of Arab contacts in this respect while Lebanon is waging the battle of liberating the land from Israeli occupation.

President al-Jumayyil received members of the committee in the Presidential Palace in B'abda this morning. The committee was led by former Minister Michel Iddih, and included former Minister Ja'far Sharaf al-Din, Ambassador Nadim Dimashqiyah, Dr George Dib, Dr Ghassan Salamah, and Dr Khalid Qabbani. The meeting lasted 1 hour during which the committee briefed President al-Jumayyil on the results of its activity and the contacts held in the execution of its mission. The committee also briefed Al-Jumayyil on its Arab contacts in light of the visit the committee will pay as of tomorrow to the Arab League Headquarters in Tunis, where the committee will hold talks with Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi and senior Arab League officials for consolidating the steadfastness of the citizens in southern Lebanon, western Al-Biqa', and Rashayya, and for intensifying the Arab League's efforts at the Arab level in this respect.

Chamber of Deputies Speaker Husayn al-Husayni had met with members of the committee at his residence to discuss with them the broadlines of the mission entrusted to the committee's delegation, which will leave for Tunis tomorrow to present the latest developments in Lebanon, and the Israeli arbitrary practices in the south, western Al-Biqa', and Rashayya.

Phalangist Leader Views Israeli Withdrawal 15 Jan

NC151315 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1145 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Following today's meeting of the Lebanese Front, Phalangist Party Leader Elie Karamah said: We are hoping the Israeli withdrawal will take place in coordination with the Lebanese Government in order to avert any setback or threat to the security of the southerners. Hence, he added, we are also hopeful that the Al-Naqurah talks will be resumed and will meet with success so that the government, its forces, and the UN forces can play their role in maintaining security in the south.

Al-Jumayyil Confers With USSR Envoy on Situation

NC151538 Beirut Domestic Service in English 1510 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Text] President Amin al-Jumayyil conferred at noon today with the Soviet ambassador to Lebanon, Aleksandr Soldatov. The discussion centered on the current situation in Lebanon in light of the latest political and security developments in the country. President al-Jumayyil later entertained Ambassador Soldatov at lunch at the B'abda Palace.

French Observers Vacate Positions in Beirut

NC160824 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0745 GMT 16 Jan 85

[Text] Lebanese Army positions in Suq al-Gharb are coming under sniper fire. Meanwhile, Kafr Shima is being subjected to machine gun fire from positions held by Junblatt's gunmen in Al-Shuwayfat.

In another development, the French observers have just started vacating their positions near Al-Shuwayfat and in Burj al-Murr. The French observers' step comes in the wake of the decision made by the Joint Security Committee yesterday to suspend the French observers' role in guarding the armed positions in Beirut's southern suburb after the recent assassination of two French observers.

PRC Embassy Security Tightened Following Threats

NC160616 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 16 Jan 85

[Text] The security measures around the PRC Embassy in Al-Mazra'ah [in West Beirut] have been tighetened following threats that the embassy would be blown up.

Army Intelligence Officer's House Reportedly Bombed

NC142037 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon2000 GMT 14 Jan 85

[Text] The Voice of the Mountain has learned that the house of army intelligence officer Major 'Atallah 'Atallah in Al-Hazimiyah has been bombed. The bombing is a result of widening differences among the regime's organs. It should be recalled that Maj 'Atallah is the officer in charge of Beirut's intelligence.

4 Killed, 26 Wounded in Beirut Explosions

NC160703 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 16 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Four people were killed and twenty-six were wounded in two explosions last night at the Tawfia Sharaf al-Din building in Al-Labban street, off Bristol Street. Heavy losses in the area also resulted. At 0800 this morning a shell landed in the Olivetti area. It originated in Ra's al-Nab', where socialist and Hezbollah gunmen are stationed.

Armed movements were reported in the areas of Ra's al-Nab' and Bisharah al-Khuri last night.

Ba'th Congress Discusses Organizational Report

JN161200 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 16 Jan 85

[Text] Damascus — The Eighth Ba'th Party Regional Congress resumed work at 1000 today. The party comrades resumed their discussion of the Ba'th Party Central Committee's organizational report.

Discussion centered on the importance of the organizational issue in the party's life and the party's role in leading the society and state.

'Vigilance' Urged During Israeli Withdrawal

JN160910 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0345 GMT 16 Jan 85

[Press review]

[Text] In an editorial today under the headline "Beware of Strife in the South," *AL-BA'TH* says: The Zionist enemy decision to gradually and partially withdraw from Lebanon was not a surprise. It was expected, despite the Israeli intransigence that preceded it and the carrot-and-stick policy which was aimed at perpetuating the occupation and exploiting the results of the invasion.

The paper adds: Regardless of the circumstances surrounding this decision and its probable consequences, it is considered to be a great triumph for the heroic national resistance and the will of a people who have refused to submit and capitulate to the Zionist war machine. However, this decision is not a white flag that Israel raised in the south to declare its defeat and surrender. Thus, we should deal with an enemy decision that is the first of its kind in the history of the Arab-Zionist struggle. We should have a clear, comprehensive concept of the decision that was made amid prolonged talks at Al-Naqurah — talks which were held in both prolonged and short rounds.

This decision was made amid successive stifling crises that have shaken Israeli society both politically and economically. Most important, the decision was made as a result of the complete inability to confront the flaming resistance that astonished the world and overwhelmed the invaders. Nevertheless, we urge clear farsightedness, which everyone certainly has, particularly those whose love for their homeland has made them prepared to sacrifice their lives. This farsightedness should make us permanently alert to the enemy's secret plans and to the actions it will take when implementing its decision.

The paper goes on to say: Let us remember that the invasion of Lebanon was carried out under the slogan of peace for Galilee — a slogan which became a cover for an occupation aimed at emptying southern Lebanon of its people and then annexing it. However, the slogan was undermined on both counts. The south could not be emptied or annexed; instead, it emptied Israeli policy of its basic factors and increased the failures and defeats of Israel's aggressive, expansionist plans. We are witnessing a new recession in the Zionist flow, which was intended to penetrate the Arab homeland through a weak link, as Lebanon used to be described. However, through the rifle and national unity, Lebanon proved that it is no longer the weak link or the open door.

Lebanon and all of us, including the struggling people of southern Lebanon, are asked to promote the proof of Lebanon's Arab option by maintaining permanent alertness and vigilance toward enemy attempts to sow strife among the one Lebanese people with the aim of maintaining a state of weakness and fragmentation and of preserving its motley agents under Lahd's command. The weapon of sedition is a serious and lethal one and the enemy will use it to supplement its withdrawal decision. Will we be alert to it? Will we avert it so that victory will be complete and Lebanese soil will be free from the Israeli invaders?

Knesset Proposal on Law of Return Defeated

TA161047 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1025 GMT 16 Jan 85

[Text] By a majority vote of 62 to 51, the draft resolution of the religious lobby on amending the Law of Return was defeated. One Knesset member [MK], the Likud's Beni Shalita, abstained from voting while eight MK's were absent. The absent MK's included Ben-Elisar, Grupper, Uri'el Linn, Meir Kahane, and Minister Sharir. Alignment MK Rabbi Menahem Hakohen supported the amendment to the Law of Return. Two draft resolutions, one by MAPAM's Eli'ezer Granot and another by MK's from the Citizens Rights Movement, were not raised for a vote, following the prime minister's remarks. As said, the draft resolution by the Knesset's religious lobby was defeated by a majority of 62 to 51.

Initial Stages of Withdrawal From Lebanon Proceeding

IDF Preparations Beginning

TA150855 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 15 Jan 85 pp 1, 9

[Report by Eytan Haber and Arye Tzimuqi]

[Excerpt] Today, after the Cabinet decided to approve the plan to evacuate the IDF from Lebanon, the IDF will enter into an operational and logistic "battle procedure" to break the ground for a withdrawal to the first interim line. It transpires that at this stage, there has not yet been any definite decision on the precise demarcation of this interim line in the field.

Nor has the IDF yet prepared the operational order for the first withdrawal, in the western sector, which is scheduled to be implemented within 5 weeks, according to the Cabinet decision. The operation itself has not yet been given a name or nickname, nor does it have a precise timetable.

Today and within the next few days, the General Staff branches and Northern Command headquarters will assess the situation and devise instructions to be issued to the forces based on these assessments. In any event, the following points are already clear:

The withdrawal will be implemented under operational pressures;the Shi'ites and Palestinians are remaining in the field and could try to attack the withdrawing IDF troops. Therefore, the withdrawal will be an operational move, under conditions of high alert.

Because of the conditions of the withdrawal and the cost of transport, it will apparently be decided to leave in the field those installations not worth evacuating. Positions and fortifications that were established with investments of tens of millions of dollars will be blown up and completely destroyed.

The weather will not alter the timetable. At first it was believed that it would be impossible to implement a withdrawal during the Lebanese winter. However, since the winter is arriving late, it is no longer being taken into account.

The IDF will devote special attention and scrupulous care to the control and supervision of the local population during the evacuation. Within the next few days, an attempt will be made to speak with the various sects to persuade them to not begin shooting the minute the evacuation begins. The Lebanese Army's success last week in its deployment in the area of the coastal road is providing some hope that this Army will be able to follow the IDF into the areas to be evacuated and prevent acts of massacre.

However, it seems that thousands of inhabitants, especially the Christians, do not believe in miracles. Hundreds of Christian families have already said that when the IDF withdrawal begins, they will flee the evacuated areas and go to Beirut, or move south with the IDF forces.

First Stage Timetable Set

TA151943 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Text] The first stage of the IDF's pullout from southern Lebanon will end within exactly 5 weeks, on 18 February. Our military correspondent Moshe Shlonsky notes the IDF will offer to sell some of the installations in the evacuated area to the Lebanese Army or to UNIFIL.

Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin today told UN Under Secretary General Brian Urquhart that Israel intends to go back to the Al-Naqurah talks and is now awaiting Lebanon's reply. Security sources in Israel regard these talks as an official channel for the technical coordination of the IDF's evacuation. Our military correspondent points out that the publication of a timetable for the IDF's withdrawal actually constitutes the Israeli reply to Lebanon's demand that such a timetable be determined before a decision is made on the stationing of UNIFIL.

Withdrawal From Al-Awwali Viewed

TA160804 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 16 Jan 85 p 1

[Report by defense correspondent Hirsh Goodman]

[Text] The Israel Defence Forces will not start pulling back from its line along the Al-Awwali for at least two weeks. Military experts have determined that a maximum of three weeks will then be needed to withdraw all Israeli facilities from the Al-Awwali line. Some of the buildings will be transferred to the temporary line, but most will be brought back to Israel.

THE JERUSALEM POST was told last night that the IDF has indicated to the Lebanese Army and to UNIFIL that it would be prepared to leave intact to either of them, all IDF facilities along the Al-Awwali. But Israel must be compensated "for their full value." The Lebanese and UNIFIL have 10 days in which to reply, after which Israel will begin pulling back in the first week of February.

No installations will be blown up, nor will any of the roads that the IDF has built along the Al-Awwali be destroyed. The line was built after Israel's 1983 pullback from the Al-Shuf moun-

tains expressly to be temporary, with the knowledge that the IDF's deployment along the Al-Awwali was to be limited.

In the second stage of redeployment, Israel will withdraw from Jabal al-Baruk and the eastern sector, where Israeli forces have been stationed for 30 months in concrete bunkers and other installations. This will begin after the first stage has been completed, and the nature of the second determined.

The new line in the western sector, the coordinates of which are being worked out by the IDF and the security services, runs roughly from a point south of the Al-Zahrani River mouth through to Jabal al-Baruk. The *POST* has been told that no permanent structures or roads will be built along this line.

Its defence will be secured with different tactics from those used by the IDF on the Al-Awwali. Greater reliance is being placed on round-the-clock control of key points by forces based further south. In addition to physically controlling the main north-south patrols and other means to prevent a reinfiltration of both terrorists and materiel into the south. [sentence as published]

Peres, Rabin Set July Deadline For Complete Withdrawal

TA160857 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 16 Jan 85 pp 1, 2

[Report by 'Aqiva Eldar, 'Oded Zaray, Mikha'el Garti, and Tzvi Bar'el]

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres and Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin have agreed that the process of withdrawal from Lebanon and the return to the international border will end no later than July.

The second phase of the plan (the withdrawal to the Hasbayya line) is expected to end by April. The IDF will evacuate the Sidon area by 18 February, and will thus complete the first stage of the withdrawal from Lebanon.

It has been learned that Prime Minister Shim'on Peres firmly insisted that the Cabinet's resolution also include the final stage of the withdrawal to the international border, for fear of international pressure in light of the assessment that internecine massacres could take place in the areas the IDF will evacuate. Without a resolution on a withdrawal to the international border, Israel might be subject to outside pressure not to evacuate other areas and thereby expose their inhabitants to the danger of slaughter.

Security elements believe that after the IDF pulls out of Jabul al-Baruk, the Syrians might try to seize the area, since Israel has not reached any understanding with them on leaving Syrian forces along their line in Al-Biqa' even after the evacuation of the IDF from the eastern sector.

Billions of shekels will be invested in the next few months in preparing the international border between Israel and Lebanon. The defense establishment has decided to spend vast sums of money in building and renovating air-raid shelters, renovating the IDF defense systems along the line, and renovating and improving the security system along that line.

The General Staff yesterday began preparing the order for the withdrawal from the Sidon area, in accordance with the Cabinet decision, and the actual evacuation process will begin next week. The precise line to which the IDF will withdraw in the western sector will be determined as part of this process. Thus, for instance, it has been decided that the Ansar detention camp will, for the time being, remain in the area that will still be under Israeli control. The decision on how far from Ansar the new line will be drawn will be made next week.

No installations will be built on the new interim line, no new roads will be paved, and no telephone lines will be installed there. The IDF Quartermaster General Branch will determine criteria for the removal of equipment. Thus, only equipment that is worth dismantling will be removed and transferred. Israel will approach UNIFIL, and perhaps even the Lebanese Army, with the offer to sell them particularly "heavy" installations that have been set up in the area, such as vehicle repair shops. These will only be dismantled and brought back to Israel if no buyers are found for them.

The withdrawal plans are based on the assumption that terrorism will increase as the withdrawal date approaches. In parallel, the IDF and the various security branches are taking action to promote a dialogue with various groups among the local population to prevent bloody incidents between them once the IDF leaves the area.

Rabin Briefs Knesset Committee on Withdrawal

TA151648 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1505 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Text] Defense Minister Rabin today briefed the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee on the Cabinet's decision to withdraw from Lebanon, and praised the General Staff for its preparatory work. Our correspondent in the Knesset, Sha'ul Stav, reports:

[Begin recording] [Stav] The Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee met on last night's Cabinet decision to withdraw in phases from Lebanon to an interim line. Major General Ehud Baraq, the head of the IDF Intelligence Branch, and Major General Menahem 'Eynan, the head of the Planning Branch, appeared before the committee and explained the plan which was approved by the Cabinet. Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin said: Remaining near the Al-Awwali River would mean that there would be no possibility for a political arrangement or security arrangements. This is a deployment without any time limit; we may as well sit there forever.

Rabin paid tribute to the General Staff for the preparatory works and said: I wish that the Cabinet had previously been given several alternatives prior to making a decision, as they were this time.

The defense minister continued: We are continuing our efforts to reach political arrangements. The announcement of a unilateral move on our part does not harm these efforts, perhaps the contrary. In any case, we will start moving in 5 weeks unconditionally. The Lebanese have 4 to 5 weeks to consider whether they have something to offer.

Israeli Officers Explain Withdrawal Decision to Lahd

TA151823 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Text] The chief of staff and the commander of the Northern Command today called on the headquarters of General Antoine Lahd, the commander of the army of southern Lebanon [ASL], in Marj 'Uyun. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that the chief of staff explained the government's decision about a withdrawal from Lebanon and a discussion was conducted about the role to be played by the ASL in the implementation of this decision. Consultations between the IDF and the ASL will continue in the next few days.

Chief of Staff Levi On Withdrawal From Lebanon

TA152030 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1935 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Interview with Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Moshe Levi by Nisim Mish'al, military correspondent Moshe Shlonsky, and Arab affairs correspondent Ehud Ya'ari — live in the studio]

[Text] [Mish'al] Good evening. The guest in our program is Chief of Staff Lt Gen Moshe Levi. The man who was the deputy chief of staff when the IDF forces went into Lebanon, is now the man who will have to, in his capacity as chief of staff, implement the withdrawal plan. Experts believe that the withdrawal may be more complex and complicated than the IDF's entrance into Lebanon. We will devote this program to this issue. Good evening to you, Mr Chief of Staff.

[Levi] Good evening.

[Mish'al] Sir, you favored a withdrawal to the international border in one leap; at least this is what we learned from the deliberations which preceded the final decision. Why was your position not accepted?

[Levi] I confess this is the first time I have heard about my preferences. The Cabinet passed a resolution yesterday according to the proposal of the General Staff. This proposal had been submitted to the defense minister and was approved by him, and was also submitted to the prime minister. As I said, this proposal was approved by the Cabinet yesterday exactly according to the principles of the plan formulated by the General Staff.

[Mish'al] Did you not favor a rapid and drastic withdrawal to the international border, without going through an interim line, in the deliberations preceding the Cabinet's decision?

[Levi] The General Staff held lengthy deliberations. We actually began these discussions after we left the Al-Shuf mountains. I do not recall favoring an immediate withdrawal at any stage whatsoever, because the problem is not that of the IDF's departure from Lebanon — this is not how I see the problem as far as the Army is concerned — but a problem inherent in the IDF's objective of safeguarding the northern border, particularly against terrorists.

[Mish'al] In other words, the withdrawal to an interim line approved by the Cabinet is based on your decision?

[Levi] I cannot decide for the government. The General Staff submitted a proposal; exactly the same proposal was approved by the Cabinet. I did not infer from it — if that is the case, perhaps we had better define the decision made yesterday — that it refers to a withdrawal to an interim line or to a deployment along an interim line. What I understood is that it refers to a gradual redeployment by the IDF on the international border, to be followed later by a security strip north of the border.

[Ya'ari] Would I be right in saying that the plan submitted by the General Staff to the Cabinet this week was formulated while taking into consideration the political needs of achieving a Cabinet majority in favor of a withdrawal plan?

[Levi] I reject, protest, and I have no words to say to those who allege that we formulated an operational-military plan meant to attain a compromise among various elements in the Cabinet. This is the plan of the General Staff. I think you know — and I think I may also say it here — that the Shin Bet and the Mosad favored the option recommended by the General Staff, out of the four options we prepared and contemplated. As far as the formulation of the plan is concerned, and as far as I am concerned, there was no relation whatsoever with any partisan or political apparatus within the Cabinet, neither now nor ever before during the terms of previous governments.

[Shlonsky] If that is the case, then why did you recommend to the Cabinet to deploy along an interim line stretching from the Al-Litani River to the Al-Nabatiyah plateau, when it is clear to everyone that this line has blatant disadvantages, such as the fact that it splits the Shi'ite population in Lebanon and the problem of the topographical conditions?

[Levi] I am repeating my suggestion — perhaps we should state what the Cabinet decided yesterday. It did not decide to deploy on an interim line.

[Shlonsky] For the time being we are talking about the interim line.

[Levi] I suggest that we analyze all the components of the decision and that we discuss the interim lines in this context. Being military men, we are accustomed to assessing deployment objectives and the objective decided upon yesterday is as I defined it — a redeployment on the international border with a security strip.

[Shlonsky] With your permission, let us talk about the first stage — the interim line.

[Levi] I will not get into the stages. There are interim objectives; three fundamental stages were defined, some of which are the reflection of a line in the field, some of which are the reflection of moves rather than this or that geographical line in the field.

[Shlonsky] Let me ask you: Were the IDF to propose to continue sitting on this line for a prolonged period of time, would this be the line it would choose?

[Levi] This is what I am trying to explain. To the best of my knowledge — and this was made public — a deployment along an interim line was not decided on yesterday, period. One of the options we presented — and we presented four — was that of a permanent deployment on an interim line. This option was not recommended by the General Staff.

[Mish'al] Let me rephrase the question: Where will the IDF withdraw to in another 5 weeks?

[Levi] In another 5 weeks, we will evacuate part of the western sector that includes Sidon. We must yet define the exact line, but it will not be an exact line in terms of our activities. We are not going to set up a line, but we will be making the first step in a series of moves which must bring us to the final objective.

[Ya'ari] Why must this be stretched over 9 months or more?

[Levi] I did not decide on 9 months. In my opinion...

[Ya'ari — interrupting] Is that not the position of the General Staff?

[Levi] There was no decision about 9 months. The decision is about a logistics yardstick which will apply to definite periods of time. We think we should take away with us all those things whose removal would be economically worthwhile and this takes time.

[Ya'ariv] All that long?

[Levi] I did not say that this takes a long time; I did not decide on 9 months, and I am not aware of the fact that a time limit was agreed upon — and I participated in all the deliberations preceding this decision.

[Mish'al] Perhaps we should move one step forward. Vice Prime Minsiter Yitzhaq Shamir — you probably heard his remarks at the Cabinet meeting, but we read them in the papers — said that the recommendation of the General Staff does not include a minimal reply to the need to safeguard the well-being of the Galilee settlements, or to preventing the restoration of the terrorist infrastructure. Does this not worry you?

[Levi] I do not want to comment on the remarks of ministers. I would like to say a few words about the options from which we selected the one we recommended, and which was approved by the Cabinet yesterday. We are fighting against terrorists. We have been waging this war since before the founding of the state and ever since, everywhere, and on all borders. The first point we must take into consideration is that this war will continue, although the parameters, centers of gravity and methods may change. None of the options we contemplated can absolutely prevent terrorism — and I am not aware that any other option can — but they all take into account what is happening today along the borders and within our boundaries, a constant war against terrorism.

[Mish'al] The question is: Who should the people who listen to the radio and read the newspapers believe — Yitzhaq Shamir or you?

[Levi] I am not talking about belief. Let me say once again that I will not comment on the position of ministers; this is not my job. I can talk about the operational aspects of the plan. As I said, the first aspect is a continuation of the war against terrorism, which has not stopped today even on the Lebanese front. We are not talking about a front where we are not fighting terrorism at present, and where the war against terrorism will start immediately after our redeployment. To my regret — I am not saying it proudly, but for us to get the entire picture — the war against terrorism also takes place not far from the studio where we are currently sitting. Yet we — or, at least, I — do not think that there is no security in Jerusalem.

[Ya'ari] The argument being heard from within the defense establishment — which I believe is being corroborated by the vice prime minister — is approximately as follows: Once there is a withdrawal to the proximity of the international border, rather than to a more stable line in Lebanon, it will be more difficult to prevent attacks on the Galilee settlements.

For example, at least some of the Shi'ite terrorist leaders have been declaring out loud that they intend to follow us, even after we have withdrawn, and attack the Galilee.

[Levi] I will refer to Shi'ite terrorism. Among other things, Shi'ite terrorism is a result of our presence in southern Lebanon. I qualify this statement because the Shi'ite community has undergone processes — some of which ran parallel to the war, some of which were totally unrelated — the most prominent of which is the so-called Khomeyniism which originates in Iran, the next most important being the recognition given to the Shi'ite community and its move forward into a period when it began receiving and demanding its share of the Lebanese pie in socioeconomic and political terms; our war became entangled in the middle of all these processes. It is my assessment that through our continued presence in Lebanon, we give the Shi'ites more reasons to go on attacking us, leading to a situation — which actually exists at present in the area we control in Lebanon — where most of our war is against Shi'ite or other Lebanese terrorism.

The Shi'ites are composed of many groups. I believe that most of the Shi'ite community, except for extremist circles, still has no reason to regard Israel as a target for its attacks. However, we cannot rule out the possibility that this or other groups might engage in this kind of activity. As I said, the war against terrorism is a long process which will yet keep us busy for a long time.

[Ya'ari] How does one tackle this Shi'ite terrorism, with those Khomeyniite and communist circles, who day in and day out state that they will go ahead with their actions?

[Levi] We have been tackling all types of terrorism for a long time. If I knew a formula which would put an end to terrorism, I would not even bother spending time to answer your question — I would certainly proceed according to that formula. We will have to tackle this problem with all the means possessed by a military force and security services. I believe the options we recommended will avail us with all the advantages of such a war. To all those who believe in absolute superiority and prevention, I should say that, to my regret, there is no operational backing to such a notion in the foreseeable future.

[Shlonsky] We talk a great deal about Shi'ite terrorism at present, but meanwhile some 2,000 terrorists have arrived in Beirut, and the terrorists have set up an infrastructure in the refugee camps in southern Lebanon. Who will in fact prevent them from entering the areas to be evacuated by the IDF in the next few months?

[Levi] The concept of the plan approved by the Cabinet leaves an opening to a process which I also favor and that is attempting to reach an arrangement. I believe that in the present framework, this attempt is futile. However, the decision about a gradual withdrawal actually tells all those who could replace us in providing a certain measure of order and security — the Lebanese Army and UNIFIL — the following: You argued that this was a problem between Lebanon and UNIFIL; well, go ahead and coordinate your positions. You argued that the Lebanese Army can control the area and you do not want to meet any conditions; well, we are not demanding any conditions, we are merely informing you.

We did inform them that we will be evacuating the area by 18 February and we invited them — incidentally, this is not the first time that I am inviting the Lebanese Army to this area — to enter the area, wheher directly after we have left, or after an interim period when the area would be taken over by this or another UN force.

[Shlonsky] Do you expect the United Nations, the Lebanese Army, or the Shi'ite Amal forces to prevent the terrorists from returning to southern Lebanon?

[Levi] The question of preventing them — you have only just said that this has not been prevented in Beirut — from being in Lebanon is an objective that cannot be attained by anyone at present. We must prevent their attacks on our border. I believe many elements in Lebanon want to prevent that, but I am not sure that they will have the strength and the combination of political and social powers to carry this out. When I say that we will have to continue fighting terrorism, I did not mean that they should fight terrorism, but I definitely see the need for the IDF to firmly, wisely, and effectively — I hope it does it effectively — fight terrorism in the way it sees fit.

[Mish'al] Can you elaborate under which conditions the IDF will continue to fight terrorism wisely, firmly, and effectively? What must happen for the IDF to go back to operating inside Lebanon?

[Levi] Look, the IDF is currently stationed in Lebanon and the basic problem of this presence is two-fold. First, this presence is basically a static one, over the entire area and continuous. In my opinion, the price we pay for this way of preventing terrorism is too high and one which we cannot afford. Second, even this way — which would seem to be safe — includes uncertainties. This is not a static situation and I do not know if it is good to accept a daily number of terrorist attacks as a static situation. However, what I say is that this is not a static situation; it may change and there are people who want to change it drastically. In other words, when we compare the options, we should bear in mind that an option may seem to be fool-proof and stable, but it cannot be so absolutely, because the components of this entire system change.

[Mish'al] Let me elaborate. Would the establishment of a terrorist framework in the refugee camps near Sidon, for example, make us once again sing, as the defense minister phrased it: We have returned to you Sidon [allusion to popular post 6-Day War song hailing return to Sharm al-Shaykh]?

[Levi] I did not hear what the defense minister said. What I am simply saying is that this will oblige us to take military steps. I think we retain this possibility in such a situation, to a certain extent, even more than in the current conditions. However, such a possibility is not simple. I have said that I do not know any formula which can provide the answer at once. This is a constant war in which we will use all the means and methods. We will handle matters according to the developments in the field.

[Ya'ari] Many of the people dealing with this issue fear that upon our withdrawal from the first section — from Sidon up to this point [apparently indicating site on the map] — an all-out war will erupt over control of the area. Will the IDF intervene to halt the massacre, or will it act as it did upon its pulllout from the Al-Shuf area?

[Levi] Perhaps at this point I should reiterate the IDF's basic objectives. As I know them, there are two objectives —protecting the very existence of the State of Israel and safeguarding the security of its citizens. To your hypothetical question, I can say that I do not see any reason for the IDF to intervene. You are right in saying that also when we pulled out of the Al-Shuf mountains we saw no reason to intervene. Despite the fact that to be cautious, people make pessimistic assessments, I am not sure that a massacre will take place in Sidon as people say. There is a combination of a balance of power and coalitions in Sidon. I am not sure that it will be absolutely calm. We are doing everything to have those in charge, and those who want to bear this responsibility, assume control, particularly the Lebanese Army and the Lebanese Government. On the face of it, it does not seem to me that matters will warrant the IDF's intervention.

[Shlonsky] What did we actually gain from the fact that we waited another year or 18 months since the withdrawal from the Al-Shuf area until the government passed a decision to pull out from Lebanon? In your opinion, why could such a decision not have been made about a year ago?

[Levi] Since you yourself pointed out that such a decision has to be made by the government, this is not a question I should address. However, I would like to point out that we are dealing here with a large series of uncertainties. I mentioned earlier that I favored another attempt of the political-security process at the Al-Naqurah talks, but I saw very little chance for this process to succeed. I am certain that every chance and every possible path had to be exhausted. In my opinion, the chances of this are very slim at present, and a way to achieve it may be entailed in the plan approved yesterday. In that event, this arrangement would be no less good than a signed arrangement that is not backed by any deeds.

[Shlonsky] I was asking about staying another year in Lebanon. Is our situation in Lebanon today better than it was a year ago?

[Levi] Always, when you are looking back — remembering what I said — I can only explain part of this matter. When you are looking back, it may appear to you that there may not have been any reasons to stay. But I think that today there are many people who think that it is necessary to stay longer in Lebanon, because there is a chance to reach an arrangement. I think that this chance is slim. Therefore I say here and now: If staying there increases this chance, and if more actions on our part, connected with our staying there, increases this chance, I think that we should have stayed.

[Mish'al] Your remarks lead us directly to Syria. As you say, and as we know, there is no agreement, not even an understanding with the Syrians; nevertheless we are withdrawing. Is there any red line that, if crossed by the Syrians following our retreat, would cause Israel to react?

[Levi] I do not believe in red lines. The Syrians are in Lebanon for reasons of their own, and I believe they will continue their presence in Lebanon. I believe that they will alter in one way or another their deployment or the size of their forces, but not significantly. The Syrians are in the Golan Heights also for reasons of their own. In this respect they are not less threatening from a military aspect than in Lebanon. Therefore, you could ask me every day what we are doing to prevent the Syrian forces, Jordanian forces, or other forces from marching toward our border. This is one of our basic problems. We have hostile armies facing us; these armies are composed of regular soldiers and are deployed along certain lines. In this respect they constitute a permanent potential threat. We respond to this by means of a series of measures, which can also be used along the Lebanese border. I do not see any special problem here.

[Ya'ari] There is an element of danger in the situation now arising, in that a clash between us and terrorist elements in the areas who will want to continue acting against us, may lead us toward a clash with the Syrians. Last Saturday, for instance, Al-Asad said: I am inciting, encouraging, and supporting all those who want to continue the attacks.

The question is whether we will ask Syria to account for this.

[Levi] Look, Syrian support for terrorism did not just begin last week. We did not need Al-Asad's declaration. Should Israel, for this reason, declare war on Syria? Today I say no. Could this lead to such a situation later? Well, you may look eastward and see that in the situation prevailing by the late 1960's along the Jordanian border, there was perhaps no declaration of war, but there were clashes between us and the Jordanian Army because of terrorist activity.

[Shlonsky] Regarding Syria, can you tell us something new about our POW's and MIA's there?

[Levi] Of course I cannot provide details. However, the POW's actually held by the Syrians have been returned. Today we have three POW's and four MIA's, and we are continuously engaged in efforts to learn more about the fate of missing soldiers and return of POW's, without giving any publicity to it, but nevertheless we work for it. I see this as one of the IDF's tasks, and I think that we can successfully fulfill this task.

[Mish'al] With your permission I want to return to Ehud Ya'ari's question about Syria. According to the information you have, will the Syrians, upon the IDF's withdrawal, instruct the terrorists or their forces to take over the areas evacuated by us, or part of the areas?

[Levi] I would like to comment on the media, if you will allow me?

[Ya'ari] Always.

[Levi] We have a problem in the matter of symmetry in the media and receiving assessments and opinions between us and the Syrians. We have to guess everything the Syrians may do, and to my regret, in many cases the Syrians or other enemies can know exactly what we are going to do. However, returning to your question, the question is not if I know whether the Syrians have given such instructions. When you evacuate an area, you can assume that, among other things, elements that today are termed as terrorists and hostile to us, may take over the area. I assume that this is a reasonable assessment, and we are acting according to this assessment. We are taking this into account. The Syrian ecnouragement, as Ehud Ya'ari has already mentioned, has been publicly expressed. Therefore we may assume, as I said before, that terrorists will continue to reside in Lebanon. We will have to take steps to ensure that they do not act against us. Complementing our actions, I believe, will be the interests of the residents and a chance that Lebanese official factors and UNIFIL will deploy their forces there and will take action against terrorists. All this combined could prevent terrorist attacks, or at least reduce them to a considerable extent.

[Ya'ari] We could infer from your remarks that we refuse to outline to the Syrians what is and what is not allowed, and that we actually are agreeing to the fact that they may turn the area which we will evacuate in southern Lebanon into a no-man's land of free clashes between their envoys and us. I am not sure that this is the message you want to send.

[Levi] I am not sure if we should allow the Syrians... [changes thought leaving sentence incomplete] Actually I think we are speaking on two different levels. We are talking about Lebanese territory. You are more or less telling me that we should ask the Syrians to enter Lebanese territory and bring order in the area we evacuate, so that later I can impose demands on them and determine red lines for them. First, I do not invite the Syrians. Second, I do not champion red lines in any sphere, and this may be a question for another debate, that is whether a red line is a preventative or a restraining line.

[Shlonsky] Israel has lately and on many occasions requested the inclusion of UNIFIL in a political arrangement. This comes after many years during which we have played down UNIFIL and even prepared a blacklist against UNIFIL's actions. Now, many people here are thrilled to accept UNIFIL. What has happened; who has changed? Us or them?

[Levi] I do not know if anyone is thrilled. I think that it is the current circumstances that have changed. Prior to the Peace for Galilee war, UNIFIL acted from an infrastructure that was controlled by the PLO. This blacklist you refer to contained their concessions to strong PLO organizations which were in that area

and which hindered UNIFIL's activities. Now that this infrastructure no longer exists — and there is no argument over the fact that this infrastructure does not exist, at least not in the south and not even in Beirut, although some terrorists have returned there — I believe UNIFIL can be much more useful. I do not say, and no one has said, that UNIFIL alone will stop terrorist activity against us.

[Ya'ariv] Lately much has been said about the erosion of the IDF in Lebanon. Could you explain if and how the IDF has been affected resulting from its over 2-year stay in Lebanon?

[Levi] The erosion — which, by the way, occurs every time there is a campaign — can be divided into two groups. The first is an erosion which we can measure. I can say that we are maintaining a certain number of units and this takes a certain amount of their time, that we are using a certain amount of ammunition, or hours in which engines are working, money is spent, or other devices are used. All this can be measured. Another erosion is an erosion related to understanding the goals. In this respect, it disturbed me every time a soldier was asked what he was doing, he said that he was safeguarding his life. I think that this expresses the erosion of not understanding the IDF's goals.

[Mish'al] Safeguarding one's life is not of the highest value?

[Levi] I think that life is of the highest value, and I think that an army should try to obtain security goals. Attaining a goal is also of high value. I fear — even though this answers Ya'ari's question — that I see some confusion. I do not see the safeguarding of life as a light matter, God forbid. But I claim that commanders and soldiers should be guided by their mission, and they should act accordingly. If there is confusion between the two spheres — and you ask me how I can measure erosion — I think that this is one of the nonphysical symptoms that reflect erosion in the IDF's ability.

[Mish'al] Perhaps the reason is that the goals were not clear?

[Levi] I think that the goals are clear, the missions are clear. It is our task to guard our northern border and protect the residents in the north against terror without any express decision to this effect, just as it is our task to do so also in other places, and I will emphasize this again; our goals are based on the protection of all residents of Israel and on Israel's very existence. Deployment in a large area — the result of which was, indirectly, attaining the goal — and the very fact that this has been done indirectly and from a static attitude, as I pointed out earlier, was the reason for the confusion in this matter. It is a fact that there was confusion.

[Ya'ari] I cannot refrain from asking you the following small question. In the light of what you know today, would you have acted differently, when you were deputy chief of staff, in the debates held prior to the decision to enter Lebanon in 1982?

[Levi] I must say that to this small question I have to give a very long answer. For then I must say what I said at the time. What I can say with certainty is that I, today, know much more about Lebanon and everything connected with Lebanon than I knew at the time when I was deputy chief of staff.

[Mish'al] Were the decisions made due to a lack of knowledge?

[Levi] I was talking about myself, and of what I knew; you, Nisim, asked me to be brief,so that if you want me to elaborate on it, I can. I will not conclude this discussion before you do, so I think I must say one other sentence to the residents in the north of the country. I say to the residents there, as I say to all citizens of Israel: It was difficult for us to make this decision. It is a recommendation which is not easy. It was a selection of options, none of which were perfect. In our opinion this is the lesser of the evils, the best one under the circumstances, but I have no doubt that this possibility is the best one in the comprehensive context of Israel's security. We will not be at fault in protecting the residents against terrorism. We will not be at fault. In my opinion, the Army — in the way it is planning steps after the withdrawal process — will be ready to act against terrorism well, firmly, and efficiently, and everyone knows that I am not someone who makes beautiful declarations without foundation. I say that we are ready to act and we will do so. I believe that we will reach all necessary results to enable life in the north. Let us not — through the creation of an atmosphere of tension or fear of something that has not yet actually happened — grant our enemies and the terrorists an achievement which they did not have to work for. Thank you.

[Mish'al] With this promise to the northern settlements, we conclude this debate. I thank you for visiting the Moqed studio. I also thank my colleagues Ehud Ya'ari and Moshe Shlonsky. To our viewers at home, good night.

Lubrani Interviewed on Withdrawal, Consequences

TA151859 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Text] The coordinator of government activities in Lebanon, Uri Lubrani, says that the first line of withdrawal has not yet been determined in its exactitude, and that he foresees a struggle among the various elements in Lebanon over control in the areas to be evacuated by the IDF. Interviewed by our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal, Lubrani added that Israel would help the Lebanese Government to prevent the eruption of hostilities.

[Begin recording] [Lubrani] First of all, we will seize this interim period to inform the pertinent elements — the Lebanese Government, either through the United Nations or directly, and all other elements in the field — that they have 5 weeks to get organized to receive the area in an orderly fashion.

[Tal] Do you think they are capable of doing that?

[Lubrani] I hope so. It is my assessment that this will certainly involve some difficulties unless the UN extends its assistance. This is one of the reasons why we have been demanding, and we continue to demand, that UNIFIL deploy in the areas to be evacuated by the IDF. We hope this will come true. Remarks to this effect were made this morning by the defense minister to UN Under Secretary General Brian Urquhart. Very soon we will see if there is coordination between the UN and the Lebanese Government in a bid to conclude arrangements which would enable them to receive the area without any problems.

[Tal] Have the points on which the IDF will be deployed in the new interim line been exactly determined?

[Lubrani] An exact plan with the various points has not yet been determined; there are only general lines. Obviously, the IDF is now planning each and every phase of the redeployment exactly.

[Tal] We hear about unrest in the area to be evacuated by the IDF. What have you heard from the elements in the field in your capacity as coordinator of government activities in Lebanon?

[Lubrani] Of course, the decision of the Israeli Government has aroused concern among many elements in the field. There is no doubt that all those elements with which we were involved would like to know what will happen. We have been in contact with all these elements and we will do everything we can to have the IDF move southward amid maximum calm and security and without any unnecessary friction.

[Tal] What will we do to prevent massive sectarian unrest there, if such were to erupt? Can we prevent this in any way after our withdrawal?

[Lubrani] I do not think we have the power to prevent this following our retreat. In contrast, we are presently making every possible effort to prevent such an eventuality.

[Tal] What will happen if there are negative developments in the area after our withdrawal?

[Lubrani] It depends on the nature of these developments, the risks they entail, and the reactions they call for. In any event, we will be in a more flexible position to react than if we took a step that would make us go back to conditions we had left behind.

[Tal] How do you assess developments among the Shi'ite community which will suddenly find itself split by the new line? Some of their villages will remain under our control and others will be beyond the new line.

[Lubrani] It is my assessment that Shi'ite terrorism will erupt and we will have to cope with it — and I say this almost in the same breath. We will certainly continue to look for every possible way to establish a dialogue with those Shi'ite elements who are more moderate, who realize that we will remain their neighbors forever and that a way must be found to get along together.

[Tal] How do you envision the new interim line? Will it include crossing points like those at Al-Awwali, (Basri) and Batir al-Shuf?

[Lubrani] There will certainly be crossing points and traffic if this is possible. There is no intention to seal the lines, but rather to evacuate as many forces as possible and hand over the area to some official Lebanese body. We cannot hermetically seal the lines because this is physically impossible.

[Tal] Do you foresee a rise in terrorism following our departure?

[Lubrani] I think so, terrorism may certainly rise. However, it seems to me that within the new deployment, it will be easier for us to cope with it. Instead of concentrating all its efforts on protecting itself, the IDF will devote most of its efforts in strikes against the terrorists.

[Tal] In the wake of the withdrawal and the increasing number of terrorist attacks, will you recommend the enforcement of a firm hand policy in the area?

[Lubrani] I definitely think that it will be easier for us to enforce a firm-hand policy regarding all those elements who will act against us. We cannot adopt a firm hand policy and use it as a collective punishment. However, I think we should enforce a firm — perhaps even very firm — hand against those who are the source of the activities against us. [end recording]

Reassures Christians Seeking Protection

TA160724 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 16 Jan 85

[Text] Representatives of 15 south Lebanese villages, mostly Christians, have asked that their villages stay within Israeli-controlled territory, after the first phase of withdrawal is completed; and in Sidon, dozens of Christian and Sunni Muslim notables asked that the commander of the south Lebanese army leave a unit in the city after the Israeli pullback.

Israel's coordinator of activities in Lebanon says that despite the forthcoming withdrawal in stages, Israel will not abandon Christians in south Lebanon who support Israel. Coordinator Uri Lubrani was speaking to reporter David Essing.

[Begin Lubrani recording] We shall continue to regard the Christian community as a friendly community with which we have had, and hopefully will continue to have, a very close and friendly relationship. We shall do so, and we shall try to help in any way possible, within the realm of the policy of the Israeli Government. We can only hope together with them that the time will come when Lebanon will be free of foreign fetters and of foreign influence and dictates, and will be able to decide on its own future. [end recording]

IDF Officer Says Antiterrorism War To Continue

TA150902 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0845 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Text] Major General Ori Or, the commander of the Northern Command, has said that the war against terrorism in Lebanon will continue, even when the IDF occupies the new lines. He cannot promise that no katyusha will fall on the northern part of Israel, but he claims it is possible to reach a situation in which there will be no terrorist penetrations. Maj Gen Or was speaking in the Nahariyya town hall, in the presence of heads of towns and other settlements from all over the northern part of Israel, and our correspondent Yo'el Dar reported on his remarks.

General Or also said that he would not recommend that the IDF intervene in the areas that it will evacuate in southern Lebanon, if events like those which occurred in the Al-Shuf area last year recur. He would recommend that we do not intervene there again,

because this is the problem of Lebanon and its president, Amin al-Jumayyil.

Levi Views Antiterrorism Campaign

TA151038 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1017 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Text] Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Moshe Levi spoke today at a meeting of northern local council heads held in Nahariyya. Asked by one of the local inhabitants about the scenario following the IDF withdrawal from Lebanon, Lt Gen Levi said:

[Begin recording] I do not like all these statements to the effect that we will strike at terrorists day and night. We intend to combat the terrorists, and we plan to do this firmly, wisely, and efficiently. So I have never liked making such declarations, and I suggest that we do not make them now either. I have already said, however, that there is no question that this is our goal, and no one who want to harm us should have any doubt about our resolve to act against this. [end recording]

The chief of staff's remarks in Nahariyya were brought by our correspondent in the north Yo'el Dar.

Further Details on Rabin-Urquhart Meeting

TA151137 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1120 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Report by military correspondent Shmu'el Tal]

[Text] Minister Rabin told UN Under Secretary General Brian Urquhart that Israel wants UNIFIL to deploy in the area the IDF will evacuate, thus enabling the United Nations to ultimately transfer that area to the hands of the Lebanese, when the time comes.

Rabin foresees an important role for the United Nations in a future arrangement, provided of course, that the Lebanese will be prepared to fill the vacuum left behind by the IDF. The defense minister said that Israel seeks an orderly transfer of the area to the Lebanese, to avoid a recurrence of undesirable events such as those which happened in the Al-Shuf after the IDF evacuated that area 18 months ago. Rabin added that Al-Naqurah could also serve in the future as a center for coordination between Israel and Lebanon.

Earlier, Rabin analyzed the developments since the beginning of the contacts with Lebanon up until yesterday's Cabinet decision. Urquhart said the United Nations is interested in an arrangement. He has already left for Beirut, and when he returns on Thursday, Israel will know the precise Lebanese positions, following the decision on the withdrawal.

At the moment, it is not clear whether the Israeli and Lebanese delegations will meet in Al-Naqurah on Thursday. Israel sees no reason why this meeting will not be held, but right now people are waiting to hear Lebanon's positions — which will have a great effect on whether or not there will be future meetings.

Peres: 'Agreement' Would Prevent Massacre

TA151317 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Text] Prime Minister Peres said that there is a danger that there will be a massacre in Lebanon, which is one of the reasons why Israel wanted to reach an agreement with Lebanon and Syria. I do not know if we will succeed, he said, but we will do everything possible to secure an orderly IDF withdrawal. Our correspondent Gershon Meller reports that Shim'on Peres was talking with high school students in Yoqne'am 'Ilit.

Peres on Al-Naqurah Talks

TA151742 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres says that the future of the Al-Naqurah talks depends on whether the Lebanese and the Syrians adopt a purposeful stand in the negotiations. If they do not, Israel will withdraw even without an agreement. He said: Israel does not trust the Lebanese Army; we are interested in UNIFIL taking over the areas evacuated by the IDF, but this is not in our hands.

The prime minister stressed that the IDF is not Lebanon's police, and if clashes occur in areas we evacuate, the IDF will not intervene. Shim'on Peres spoke with our correspondent Gershon Meller when he toured Yoqne'am 'Ilit.

Likud Debates Decision To Withdraw From Lebanon

Levi: No Likud Rift

TA151021 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0943 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister David Levi does not believe his vote in the Cabinet in favor of a withdrawal from Lebanon will result in a split within the Likud. Speaking in Herzliyya, he said he believes this is a security rather than an ideological matter. Our correspondent Yafa Glick reports that Minister Levi emphasized that the new security arrangements do not include a reliance on the Lebanese Army or a UN force, but only on the IDF.

'Stormy' Faction Debate

TA151902 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Text] The Likud Knesset faction is currently holding a tense and stormy debate on the decision to withdraw from Lebanon. Knesset Members Beni Shalita and Pinhas Goldstein accused Minister David Levi of contravening the Likud's position and of breaching the promise that calm would prevail in Qiryat Shemona. David Levi replied that if his colleagues really thought so, the Likud should not remain in the government not even for 1 hour. He accused his critics of incitement. Goldstein and Shalita added that the main reason for the withdrawal was the Alignment's commitment to its electorate and that the Likud had played into the Alignment's hands.

Me'ir Shitrit came out in Minister Levi's defense, saying that the Likud had made the mistake of not having been the one to decide on a unilateral withdrawal when it was still in power. Qiryat Shemona Mayor Prosper 'Azran accused the Likud ministers of not having prepared the inhabitants of Qiryat Shemona in the last 3 years for the days that would follow the withdrawal. At some point, it was decided to continue the session behind closed doors at the request of Minister Arens.

Likud Split in Debate

TA160702 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 16 Jan 85

[Text] The Likud Knesset faction spent 4 hours last night debating the decision to withdraw from Lebanon in stages. The speakers split on the subject — some supporting Moshe Arens, who voted against it; others backing David Levi, who voted in favor. Party leader Yitzhaq Shamir said the split in the Cabinet vote was a source of pride. He added: In the past, Likud ministers have not consulted the Knesset faction before Cabinet votes.

Criticizing the plan, Arens declared: If we thought we could protect the Galilee from the Galilee, we would have withdrawn from Lebanon a long time ago.

Levi criticized his party leaders for calling the faction meeting, saying the people should unite around the decision now.

Media Examines Importance of Withdrawal Decision

IDF's Frankel Reports

TA151024 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0615 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Report by political correspondent 'Oz Frankel]

[Text] Yesterday's Cabinet decision constitutes a package deal wrapped in a framework plan, and was intended to appease as broad a majority as possible. In general, it talks about an IDF withdrawal from Lebanon, and promises to bring about the beginning of the end — the untangling of the web. In fact, it is committed only to a withdrawal from the Sidon area, and a redeployment in the Al-Litani-Al-Nabatiyah region along the new line. Later, another debate will be held. The decision is impeded by many brakes, and it requires two more Cabinet votes before the final withdrawal is effected, as well as a scrupulous 9-month examination of what will take place in the areas from which the IDF will withdraw.

The vital importance of the decision lies in the fact that it terminates another chapter of the Israeli stay in Lebanon, and heralds a new political concept. No longer is there a necessary link to coordinating positions with the United States; there are no explicit red lines vis-a-vis the Syrians; there is no bargaining with the Shi'ites, the Druze, the Christians, the Sunnis, and all the rest. The IDF is beginning to redeploy in Lebanon, aiming at the international border.

This morning, the defense minister met with UN Under Secretary General Brian Urquhart, and briefed him on the new decision. Rabin is proposing that UNIFIL take over the area to be evacuated by the IDF in Lebanon.

On Thursday, the Israeli delegation will return to the Al-Naqurah talks; perhaps the cancellation of the conditioning of the withdrawal upon an agreed-upon arrangement will accelerate the political contacts. The military and political processes will continue side by side in the next few weeks.

As for last night's Cabinet session, the bottom line was that the Cabinet was presented with two draft resolutions — one proposed by the defense establishment and Minister Rabin, defining the stages of the withdrawal up to the international border; and Minister Qatzav's proposal, requesting approval only for the first stage of the withdrawal, up to the Al-Litani-Al-Nabatiyah zone without being bound by the entire package. Qatzav and his colleagues were prepared to quote in their draft resolution the Cabinet's basic guidelines referring to a withdrawal from Lebanon, but were not prepared to undertake any further pledges.

Sixteen ministers voted for the proposal that was ultimately adopted, including all of the Alignment ministers as well as Ministers Levi, Weizman, Rubinstein, Pat, Hurvitz, Shapira, and Peretz. Shamir, Arens, Nisim, Corfu, Qatzav, and Sharir voted against the proposal.

Last night's debate lasted 5 hours, and it was characterized by a serious attitude — this was the testimony given by all the participants. Those opposed to the defense establishment's proposal argued that the Cabinet must not now commit itself to a total withdrawal from Lebanon. Yitzhaq Shamir, who presented the harshest counter arguments, claimed that the words he had heard from a security personality, who said that Rabin's proposal does not include the necessary minimum of security, are still ringing in his ears. Shamir said: This proposal is a capitulation, and does not provide a satisfactory answer to the question of how to defend the Galilee from the northern border.

Justice Minister Moshe Nisim said that the proposal included no security arrangements. He said that there had previously been a consensus on the need for adequate security arrangements to allow for a withdrawal from Lebanon.

One of the contentions raised by the Likud ministers was that it would be a pity to adopt a resolution with a majority of only one or two votes, as this will not be perceived by the public as a positive move. Minister Peretz, who warmly advocated the resolution, replied by saying that the scriptures say that if all the members of a court decide on capital punishment, the verdict is canceled. There must always be one or two who will present a dissenting view. Minister Rabbi Peretz also said that the war in Lebanon has had a negative effect on Israeli youth.

Prime Minister Shim'on Peres concluded by saying that there will be peace for the Galilee and the IDF. We have turned Lebanon into a Shi'ite country, and the longer we stay there, the stronger it will get. The time for a decision has come. We are not a partisan body seeking compromise; we must reach a decision. Minister Navon said: The Alignment is afraid that if there are

katyushas in the future, people will say that the moment the Alignment reached power, the katyushas returned. The Likud is afraid that people will say that the war was unnecessary. We must overcome both fears.

Finally, two amendments were introduced into the final draft. At the request of Minister Burg, the resolution stated clearly that each step of the withdrawal will be approved by the Cabinet. At the request of Minister Mordekhay Gur, it was stated that throughout all the stages, efforts to reach political agreements will continue.

The prime minister told the ministers that he had held a telephone conversation with Minister Sharon, who is in New York, and Sharon expressed opposition to a complete withdrawal from Lebanon, repeating his proposal to remain along the present lines while thinning out the IDF presence — what has also been known as the encasement formula [nushat hama'atefet].

The Cabinet debate yesterday and the day before won a deluge of praise from its participants. All the possible options were raised, and some defense establishment representatives were even allowed to express reservations about proposals presented. The debate again demonstrated the different style of staff work conducted by the Likud and the Alignment. The Alignment leaders pressed for a unified position to be presented before the Cabinet for debate and succeeded in doing so; in the Likud, opposing opinions were disclosed between the central nucleus headed by Shamir and Arens, and Minister David Levi. Prior to the session yesterday, Shamir tried to talk to some of his political allies — Yitzhaq Peretz and Yosef Shapira — but this too proved in vain.

Some Likud ministers hold a certain grudge against the Alignment for not making a gesture toward its coalition partner, resulting in the Alignment presenting a unified position while the Likud ministers are unable to do the same. Still, everyone agreed that the decision made last night does not jeopardize the national unity government. As for peace in the Galilee, as we have said, there is no consensus.

Morning Press Editorials

TA150928 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0430 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Review of morning press editorials]

[Excerpt] *DAVAR* says the decision made by the Cabinet yesterday on the IDF's redeployment in Lebanon was worked out as a compromise to try to achieve a unanimous vote. It did not yield the desired result, however, because none of the ministers was able to free himself from the conception that originally brought such disasters down on us. Nevertheless, the majority vote in favor of the resolution, and the multipartisan composition of that majority, were convincing. Even if the Cabinet set no timetable for the withdrawal, and even if the timing of each stage except for the first has remained open, the goal was clearly defined. We should try to implement it without panic, and at the same time without any unnecessary foot-dragging. There is no room for permanent interim lines; the IDF should return to its old self, with all its flexibility and maneuverability; it will in any case have the power to guarantee the basic security of the entire country, and the northern part of it as well.

HATZOFE hopes that the vast Cabinet majority supporting the decision for a unilateral phased withdrawal from Lebanon in principle, will have an influence on the unity of the nation on the matter. Time will tell whether the resolution adopted yesterday will lead to security for the IDF and the Galilee, or whether these two are irreconcilable. The security of the IDF is also peace for the Galilee, and they should not be in conflict. The Lebanese must realize that despite everything, the IDF is still strong enough to return to the areas that will be evacuated, if it becomes clear that the terrorist bases that have been deserted in the course of the Peace for Galilee operation are assuming a new guise in southern Lebanon after the withdrawal.

'AL HAMISHMAR says that, beginning today, the withdrawal from Lebanon is the binding policy of the Government of Israel, and it would be preferable to implement it with no concern for other issues that are not directly related to it. It is no coincidence that the security establishment, of all institutions, has recommended a speedy and effective termination of the process of severing our ties with the Lebanese quagmire. The experts know that anyone who is not able to jump out of such a bog in one leap is only doomed to drown in it even deeper. The experts' opinion had the upper hand yesterday around the Cabinet table, and it should also have the decisive tone in the next few months, rather than the political fears of the statesmen who had originally embroiled us in this unnecessary war.

MA'ARIV, YEDI'OT AHARONOT Views

TA150933 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Review of midday press editorials]

[Text] *MA'ARIV* believes that yesterday's decision on Lebanon was inevitable. Although it does not promise an ideal solution, the ministers who went into great detail about its shortcomings must remember that this is an attempt to correct a situation in the country which was the result of an earlier decision. Many of today's opponents of the Cabinet resolution were the partners to the earlier decision.

YEDI'OT AHARONOT says that despite the feeling of relief over getting out of the quagmire, one cannot avoid feeling a pang of apprehension; we do not want to stay in Lebanon, we are tired and have been eroded by attrition, our ability to withstand further attacks has been damaged — but still, let us not again write a song: We Have Returned to You, Sidon [reference to popular song composed after the 6-Day War on returning to Sharm al-Shaykh].

JERUSALEM POST, HA'ARETZ Views

TA160930 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0430 GMT 16 Jan 85

[From the review of morning press editorials]

[Text] The *JERUSALEM POST* says that a phased withdrawal from Lebanon will cut down on IDF casualties, while freeing the IDF to prepare for the real war that may still be looming, and freeing the government to deal with matters more vital to Israel's future, such as peace with Jordan and Egypt. Nevertheless, there is more than a suspicion that some senior Likud personages would prefer that Israel sink further in the Lebanese quagmire if world attention could thereby be diverted from Judaea and Samaria.

HA'ARETZ writes that the vote in the Cabinet two days ago proved that as far as the issue of ending our involvement in Lebanon is concerned, the Alignment enjoys a decisive edge. This is no accident; the yearning to extricate ourselves from the Lebanese quagmire is shared by the majority of the public, and even ministers whose stance had, until recently, been vague, finally understood what the electorate was expecting of them. The Cabinet initiated an absolutely necessary move and should complete it with determination, without being seized by renewed hesitations. If it acts in this way, all those who breathed a sigh of relief two days ago will be proven right. It has transpired that the Cabinet's decision last Monday has indeed turned on the light at the end of the tunnel.

Agreement Reached With Egypt on Transfer of Refugees

TA160911 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 16 Jan 85 p 2

[Report by political correspondent 'Aqiva Eldar]

[Excerpt] In anticipation of the Israeli-Egyptian talks in Beersheba on 27 January, an understanding has already been reached on the transfer of the inhabitants of the "Canada" camp in Rafah from Egyptian territory to Gaza.

Several topics will be broached in the military committee talks in Beersheba and Ismailia, in addition to the main subejct — the introduction of the MFO into Tabah, and a definition of its terms of reference.

Among other issues, the 14 disputed border points along the Sinai border will be discussed. While Jerusalem believes that Egypt is prepared to reach arrangements on these issues, it also believes that Egypt is determined to allow the MFO to deal with police affairs, and not with security matters alone. This is in conflict with Israel's position.

Jerusalem and Cairo yesterday determined the final date for the opening of the Beersheba talks, and the level of the heads of the delegations. The Israeli delegation will be headed by the Foreign Ministry's assistant director general for Middle Eastern affairs, Tzvi Qeydar, and one of the Egyptian Foreign Ministry's directors general, (Muhammad al-Badawwi), will be his counterpart.

Moda'i Says No Question of Seeking IMF Aid

TA160743 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 16 Jan 85 p 2

[Text] Finance Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i declared yesterday that there was no question of Israel's turning to the International Monetary Fund for help in solving its current economic problems.

In a wide-ranging interview to be published in *THE JERUSALEM POST* on Friday, Moda'i said an invitation to the IMF would "hand over" economic policymaking to that body, which he said, is greatly influenced by Saudi Arabia.

He had been asked to comment on a report from *THE POST*'s New York correspondent quoting Economics Minister Gad Ya'aqobi as saying the Bank of Israel is studying the question of an application to the IMF and he would "not eliminate such a possibility." Moda'i described the "ruthlessness" with which the IMF has been handling Brazil's problems, and said that he "doesn't believe that the people of Israel would allow a clerk from the IMF to double unemployment in a month merely to meet goals laid down in an academic model."

Treasury Official Promises No 'Drastic' Price Hikes

TA151021 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0949 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Text] The Finance Ministry director general, 'Imanu'el Sharon, has said there will not be a drastic increase in prices in the interim period between the first package deal and the second one. He claims that whatever the nature of the second package deal, it will be based on two principles — cutting subsidies and maintaining a low level of prices. Our correspondent Ze'ev Hasper reports that the talks on the second package deal will be resumed this evening.

Consumer Price Index Up 3.7 Percent in December

TA151531 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Text] The consumer price index increased by 3.7 percent in December and amounted to 10,755 points, according to data released by the Central Bureau of Statistics. Our correspondent Gadi Sukenik notes that this is the lowest index registered in the last 18 months, and the lowest for the month of December in the last 6 years. Our correspondent points out that this index refers to the second month of the economic package deal and is by far lower than had been predicted.

The finance minister says that this index proves that the package deal has been successful and that amendments should be introduced to the next package deal. To ensure a restoration of the economy, subsidization must be reduced and offset by means of cost-of-living increments. Speaking to our correspondent Me'ir Einstein, the finance minsiter warned that the index reflects a latent inflation and that if the appropriate measures — first and foremost, a deep cut in the state budget — are not taken, inflation might erupt soon. He emphasized that the stability of the capital market and the safeguarding of the financial assets of the public would be the cornerstone of any economic program.

The Histadrut secretary general says that the limited increase of the consumer price index once again shows that the package deal was appropriate and that it should be extended. Nevertheless, Qeysar told our correspondent Asher Schwartz that while the package deal has been in effect, the government has not adopted any complementary measures and has so far not formulated a real economic program. The Histadrut, he emphasized, believes that changes should be introduced in the package deal and that prices should be adjusted so as not to have them rise by more than 3 to 4 percent a month.

The industrialists have welcomed the index increase, saying that the public in general, and the industrialists in particular, should be commended for it. Wholesale prices increased by over 1 percent, they noted, and this means there is a good chance that inflation may continue to drop. Nonetheless, the industrialists are worried because the government has not made good use of this period and has not done enough to put the economy on a recovery course.

Moda'i Warns Against Complacency

TA160654 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 16 Jan 85

[Text] Finance Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i says he is not entirely pleased with yesterday's cost of living index, the lowest in 18 months. He explained why last night to a group of world leaders of Israel Bonds, meeting in Jerusalem.

[Begin Moda'i recording] With a rate of inflation over 21 percent only 3 months ago, we brought it down to 3.7 percent, a figure which was published today. [applause] I don't mind if the overseas guests applaud — the Israelis shouldn't, because they know what it really and truly means. And the good tidings did not make me happy today. In the first place, I knew [of] it's coming because I used models to plan this; but in the second place, I wish it wouldn't look that good, because I am afraid it will put again the leaders — political, economic leaders — back to sleep. If it's so good, why worry? Why take action? And I already hear it from our partners. [end recording]

Moda'i said the only way to solve the problem on a long-term basis is to make painful budget cuts amounting to $2 billion. This, he said, will restore Israel to economic growth within a year to 18 months.

LE MONDE Sees Moves Toward Maghreb Summit

PM151330 Paris LE MONDE in French 12 Jan 85 p 3

[Jean de la Gueriviere dispatch: "Idea of 'Five-Party' Maghreb Summit Seems To Be Taking Shape"]

[Text] Algiers — Two prominent Moroccans, Mr Guedira, political adviser to King Hassan II, and Mr Filali, minister of information, former ambassador to Algeria, who is close to the royal family and may possibly be asked to take on a different job in a forthcoming government, arrived secretly on the morning of Tuesday 8 January. They left that afternoon after talks with President Bendjedid on the preconditions for a Maghreb summit, according to a reliable source in Algiers, although the news has not been officially confirmed.

The same secrecy surrounded a meeting between King Hassan II and Algerian Foreign Minister Taleb Ibrahimi in Fes on 20 December. These two meetings suggest that the idea of a Maghreb summit, launched in December by Arab League Secretary General Klibi, acting on his own initiative, is taking shape. The idea may have been taken up by Tunisian Foreign Minister Caid Essebsi, who visited Nouakchott Thursday after a stopover in Casablanca. It is possible that he may make other visits in the region.

Algiers and Rabat apparently agree that this summit, if it takes place, should be held in Tunisia and be attended by Libya and Mauritania.

Algerians, Moroccans, and Tunisians are aware that such a summit could be convened only after careful preparation, and that one cannot expect it to be convened soon. A preliminary stage might be a second meeting between King Hassan II and President Bendjedid, in the wake of their meeting of 26 February 1983.

That meeting did not seem to produce any results. However, the thread has never been completely severed. While the Moroccan press and parliament were strongly criticizing Algeria for its increased military aid to the Polisario, the king calmed things down in a recent statement to an Arab newspaper when he paid tribute to the Algerian president, describing him as "courteous, honest, and eager for an open policy."

Two facts may have prompted a resumption of the dialogue. Morocco has undoubtedly scored points in the military sphere by pushing the Sahara defense "wall" to the Algerian and Mauritanian borders, which increasingly limits the Polisario's room to maneuver. Algeria won a diplomatic victory, carefully prepared over a long period, with the confirmation of the "Saharan Republic's" admission to the OAU.

The Algerians, who say they have no bilateral dispute with Rabat, say they are aware of the need for a united Maghreb, but still reaffirm that it cannot be built "at the expense of the Saharans" with whom the Moroccans must reach a direct agreement. The Moroccans think that this position is not tenable from a country "without which the Polisario would not exist."

It still seems to be an impossible situation. Where is the honorable way out that each country says it can offer the other? Perhaps the current negotiations relate to the search for new methods acceptable to all sides.

ALGERIA

President Receives Tunisian, Mauritanian Ministers

LD151134 Algiers APS in English 1030 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Text] Algiers, 15/1 (APS) — President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic, FLN Party secretary general, audienced M. Beji Caid Essebsi, Tunisian minister of foreign affairs and President Habib Bourguiba special envoy.

M. Beji Caid Essebsi handed to President Chadli Bandjedid a message from President Habib Bourguiba.

President Chadli Bendjedid also received a Mauritanian ministerial delegation visiting Algeria. The delegation includes M. Tarkit Ould Sidi, minister of planning and land improvement; M. Mohamed Fadel Ould Dah, minister of hydraulics and energy; and M. Isselmou Ould Baba, minister of fisheries and maritime economy.

Furthermore, President Chadli Bendjedid audienced M. Kamal ad-Din Houhou CC member and minister of public health who gave the president an account on his official visit to Senegal. M. Houhou had handed a message from President Chadli Bandjedid to President Abdou Diouf.

Tunisian Minister Delivers Message

LD151154 Algiers APS in English 1034 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Text] Algiers, 15/1 (APS) — Mr Beji Caid Essebsi, Tunisian foreign minister left yesterday Algiers at the end of a short visit. In a declaration to [words indistinct] said that he was audienced by President Chadli Benjedid, to whom he delivered a message from President Habib Bourguiba, adding that the Tunisian people will never forget the visit he paid to President Bourguiba while he was hospitalized, he added.

Regarding the aim of his visit, Mr Beji Caid Essebsi stressed that it constituted an opportunity to exchange points of view on the reinforcement of bilateral relations in all fields as it came within the frame of preparations of the next visit in Tunisia of Mr Abdelhamid Brahimi, supply member of the Politburo, prime minister to commemorate [words indistinct] events and the holding of the next meeting of the Algero-Tunisian higher commission.

This commission, Mr Beji Caid Essebsi added, will continue to work for the setting up of common projects meeting aspirations of the Algerian and Tunisian peoples. This visit, he said as a conclusion, aimed at guiding the Arab Maghreb region in that sense and to create a favorable climate to the joint action of states of the region to guarantee security and stability.

PNC Chairman, Fatah Official Arrive for Talks

LD152331 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Text] Brothers Shaykh 'Abd al-Hamid al-Sa'ih, PNC chairman, and Abu al-Sa'id [Khalid al-Hasan], Fatah Central Committee member and official in charge of PNC external relations, arrived in Algiers a short time ago.

They were received upon their arrival at the airport by a number of Algerian officials, including Brother Rabah Bitat, Politburo member and Algerian National People's Assembly speaker; Sadek Zouaten, FLN Central Committee Permanent Secretariat member; and Brother Abu al-Izz, PLO and Fatah representative; and a number of PLO cadres in Algeria.

Brothers al-Sa'ih and Abu al-Sa'id will have talks with senior Algerian state and FLN officials regarding the latest developments in both the Palestinian and Arab arenas and the results of the 17th PNC session.

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Officials, Delegations

LD151958 Tripoli JANA in English 1806 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Text] Tripoli, Rabi Thani 25, Jan 15, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The leader of the revolution today received Secretary General of the Arab African Union Ahmed al-Radhi, Moroccan Minister of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform Othman Demnati, Moroccan minister [as received] resident in the Jamahiryah, Abdelhakim Laraqi, Mayor of Kenitra [as received] Muhamed al-Ghayed, and their accompanying delegations.

Algerian Party Central Committee Delegation Arrives

LD151903 Tripoli JANA in English 1759 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Text] Tripoli, Rabi Thani 25, Jan 15, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, member of the Politburo and official responsible of [as received] the Permanent Secretariat of the Algerian National Liberation Front Party's Central Committee, and accompanying delegation arrived here this morning on a visit to Jamahiriyah.

Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud was at the head of the delegation which received them at Tripoli international airport, including secretaries of people's congresses and committees' affairs at the General People's Congress and the secretary of the Jamahiriyah Farmer's union.

Mohamed Messaadia made the following statement to JANA correspondent. "This visit is part of the brotherly relations between the two brotherly peoples. I am pleased with this visit which is aimed at realising joint cooperation."

The Algerian delegation includes Mohamed al Makami, member of the Algerian National Liberation Front Party's Central Committee; Ahmed Azali, member of the Central Committee and the Permanent Secretariat; Abderrazak Bouhara, member of the Central Committee in charge of foreign relations; Tayib Belakhdar, member of the Central Committee and secretary general of the National Union of Algerian Workers; Issa Najim, member of the Central Committee and secretary general of the National Union of Farmers; Abdelkader Benkassi, director of the political affairs department at the Algerian presidential department; and Saleh Khouri, director of information at the Permanent Secretariat of the Central Committee.

Agricultual Agreement Signed With Morocco

LD151842 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Text] The minutes of a meeting on cooperation between the Jamahiriyah and Morocco in the field of agriculture were signed today in Tripoli. The minutes were signed on the Libyan Arab side by Brother Abu Zayd 'Umar Durdah, secretary of the General People's Committee for Agrarian Reform and Land Reclamation, and on the Moroccan Arab side by Brother Othman Demnati, minister of agriculture and agrarian reform.

Brother Othman Demnati and the accompanying delegation left Tripoli this evening after a several-day visit to the Jamahiriyah.

MOROCCO

Laraki Possible New Prime Minister

WA161548 London AL-TADAMUN in Arabic No 92 12-18 Jan 85 p 5

[Text] Moroccan sources informed *AL-TADAMUN* that the new Moroccan government will be announced in the next few days. It is believed that the most likely candidate for the office of prime minister is Azzedine Laraki, the minister of national education. His candidacy has been rumored for several months. It is further believed that the crisis that occurred within the Istiqlal Party that led to his release from his party duties and the fact that he did not run in the last elections were considered by political sources to constitute a preparation on his part to assume the office of prime minister. This belief is supported by the fact that the most important requirement of this office is nonmembership in parties. Moreover, it is expected that a former prime minister will assume the office of foreign minister.

SUDAN

SPLA Radio: Rebel Forces Set Ambush, Shell Town

EA151621 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Excerpt] SPLA forces in the southern Upper Nile operational zone conducted a successful ambush on an enemy convoy on the Jubabor road on 13th January, 1985. The ambush that was carried out by the SPLA Cobra Battalion, which is commanded by Major Benjamin (Nyakot), was masterminded by Lt (Mach Anyet) and Lt Ramadhan (Matyang).

The enemy suffered 50 men killed and one armored personnel carrier, registeration number 9795363, destroyed. The SPLA captured one Browning machine gun, several rounds of ammunition, one RPD (words indistinct] magazine, one AKM machine gun and a large quantity of rocket-propelled grenade launchers. Five SPLA heroes were slightly wounded in the engagement.

In another development units of the SPLA Cobra Battalion under the command of Lt Garang Makok and Lt Kut Deng (Kurkwany) shelled Bor town yesterday. An ammunition store at an enemy barracks at (Malaoisak) was completely destroyed, 182 mm mortar and anti-aircraft batteries, stationed at an airfield at (Aku), were destroyed and enemy soldiers manning them sustained heavy casualties.

SPLA Radio: Numayri 'Offensive' Welcomed

EA152025 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The current revolutionary armed struggle in Sudan, spearheaded by the SPLA-SPLM [Sudanese People's Liberation Army-Sudanese People's Liberation Movement], is a direct result of the struggle of the masses of the Sudan against continuing internal and external oppression. Because of the colonial policies during the British rule and for political expediency, the problem affecting the whole Sudan was confined to what used to be called the southern problem.

The manifesto of the SPLM [words indistinct] the so-called problem of the southern Sudan is really a general problem in the Sudan. It is generally a problem of backward areas. In this respect, the protracted revolutionary armed struggle of the Sudan is to liberate all the Sudanese masses from the yoke of oppression and exploitation by the minority clique regime in Khartoum. This being the SPLA-SPLM objective, Numayri's regime has tried to portray the SPLA-SPLM as a movement masterminded by southern Sudanese whose intentions are to secede.

In line with its policy of divide and rule and in order to exploit and oppress the Sudanese masses, Numayri fabricated (?fake) negotiations with the renegade William Abdullah Chuol and his so-called five rebel groups in Bentiu, in their capacity as southern Sudanese and in particular as people of the Nuer ethnic group. The move to undermine the SPLA-SPLM and to reduce it to bring a discontented minority seeking to establish a separate state and thus can be negotiated with. [sentence as heard]

Having failed in his attempt to arrive at a comprehensive settlement at these talks, Numayri decided to solicit the help of multimillionaires such as Tiny Rowland and Adnan Khashoggi, these both have business interests in the Sudan, to initiate talks with SPLA-SPLM: a thing the SPLA-SPLM has totally rejected.

It is interesting to note that the government was contemplating negotiations with the SPLA-SPLM, whose objective among other things is to totally dismantle the regime of Numayri by using a protracted revolutionary armed struggle. It is also naive for Numayri to offer Colonel Doctor John Garang, as an individual, the post of vice president and create six ministerial positions for southern Sudanese.

The past leaders of other movements accepted to negotiate for positions offered, but that is not the case today. Numayri thinks that the leadership of the SPLA-SPLM would be contented with his offers.

Numayri ought to be reminded that all those who have come to join the SPLA-SPLM are from all walks of life of the Sudanese society and Col Dr John Garang is no exception and, thus, he alone cannot decide the destiny of the Sudanese people. In his latest speech to the officers, NCO's and men of the SPLA, Col Dr John Garang said that the aim of the SPLA-SPLM is not secessionist. He went on to say that [words indistinct] (?initiated) by the SPLA was a movement for the unity of the Sudanese, except that he will not negotiate with Numayri. He assertively repeated that Numayri's offer to make him vice president and to create six ministerial positions for southerners was totally unacceptable in accordance with the aims and objectives of the SPLA-SPLM. Numayri can always deceive the Sudanese masses on negotiations with a nonexistent opposition movement, let alone the SPLA-SPLM, which has made it clear on many occasions not to do so. [sentence as heard]

The past is dead. This war, unlike the first one, is going to achieve the total liberation of the whole Sudanese people. The SPLA welcomes the so-called offensive moves by Numayri's regular army, that he has opted for a military solution to the so-called rebellion in the south. The SPLA has been hoping to meet Numayri's soldiers in open military encounters.

The SPLA has never been and will not be a warmonger movement but it is forced to take the extreme action by asking Numayri's soldiers to come to the open.

What SPLA-SPLM only hopes is that Numayri's soldiers will not go around killing innocent civilians.

Briefs

Australian Ambassador Presents Credentials — This morning, President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri received the credentials of Kenneth Henry Rogers, the nonresident Australian ambassador to Sudan. President Numayri expressed his satisfaction with the course of Sudanese-Australian relations, and expressed his appreciation to the Australian Government for the support and assistance it extends to Sudan.

He added that Sudan desires further cooperation with Australia to benefit from its experience in searching for radical solutions to desertification in particular and economic development problems in general. [Summary] [*Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1430 GMT 15 JAN 85 JN*]

TUNISIA

Terrorist Reportedly Arrested at Tunis Airport

PM151649 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 15 Jan 85 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Discovery of a Terrorist Attempt Against an Arab 'Side' in Tunis"]

[Text] Tunis — It was learned here yesterday that the security authorities at Tunis airport last week arrested a traveler from the Arab east carrying a forged passport and that he was planning to carry out "terrorist" operations. He arrived on the last plane at 0200. When he approached the police control desk the security man examining his passport discovered the forgery and referred him and the passport for further scrutiny. His motives were revealed during the interrogation and he was arrested on the spot. Security sources say that he went to Tunisia on "a bloody and liquidationist mission against certain Arab sides," but according to other reports the PLO was the target of the operation.

Briefs

U.S. Food Agreement, Credit — During an official ceremony in Tunis yesterday Ahmed Ben Arfa, secretary of state for foreign affairs in charge of international cooperation, and Peter Sebastian, U.S. ambassador in Tunis, signed a food cooperation agreement under which the United States grants Tunisia $120 million worth of credit on favorable terms. [Summary] [*Tunis TAP in French 1300 GMT 15 Jan 85 LD*]

ETHIOPIA

Rebels Capture Dabat, Claim 539 Government Casualties

EA150958 (Clandestine) Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Tigrinya 0400 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Text] Gonder: On 8 January the gallant fighters of the Tigre People's Liberation Front [TPLF] and the Ethiopian People's Democratic Movement [EPDM] attacked an enemy force stationed in Dabat town in the Gonder region and occupied the town for 5 days following the destruction of the force.

The Dergue forces, reinforced by soldiers from Gonder and Debark, made an attempt to recapture the town, but the gallant and heroic fighters of the TPLF and EPDM killed and wounded 559 Dergue soldiers and captured 124 others. They also captured 583 medium and light weapons, 5 radio communication sets, 8 vehicles, assorted bullets, 60,730 birr in cash, 3 generators, and other property. They also burned one military vehicle.

KENYA

Assistant Foreign Minister Praises Relations With U.S.

EA151608 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Excerpt] An assistant minister for foreign affairs, Mr Philip Leakey, has hailed the friendly relations between Kenya and the United States and hoped that the cooperation will continue to grow.

Mr Leakey said this when he received a six-man American congressional delegation which arrived in Nairobi yesterday for a 4-day official visit to Kenya.

USSR Ambassador Presents Message to Foreign Minister

EA160324 Nairobi KNA in English 1750 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Text] Nairobi Jan 15, (KNA) — The USSR Ambassador to Kenya Dr Aleksandr Chikvaidze this afternoon presented a written communication from his government to the Government of Kenya. The ambassador handed over the documents to the Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr Elijah Mwangale. The contents of this was not made public. Receiving the documents Mr Mwangale assured the USSR ambassador that the Kenya Government appreciates assistance given to her by the Soviet Government for the last 21 years. He assured the ambassador that the Kenya Government will continue to work with Soviet Union on all matters related to mutual friendship between the two countries. The representation ceremony was attended by an assistant minister for foreign affairs, Mr Philip Leakey, permanent secretary Mr Bethuel Kiplagat, Dr Maluki, senior deputy secretary (political), chief of protocol, Mr Dennis Afande and other senior government officials.

Briefs

New Libyan Envoy — Nairobi Jan 15, (KNA) — The minister for foreign affairs, Mr Elijah Mwangale, this afternoon met the new charge d'affaires for Libya, Mr Missallati, and received his letter of appointment by which the Libyan Minister for Foreign affairs Dr 'Ali al-Turayki has appointed Mr Missallati as charge d'affaires of the embassy of the Socialist Peoples Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah here in Nairobi. [Excerpt] [*Nairobi KNA in English 1730 GMT 15 Jan 85 EA*]

New Assistant Minister — H.E. President Daniel arap Moi today relieved Mr Joseph Githae Nathenge of his appointment as an assistant minister for works, housing, and physical planning. Mr Nathenge is the member of Parliament for Laikipia West. In his place the president appointed Mr Charles Ndirangu Muthura, who is the member of Parliament for Laikipia East. Mr Muthura's appointment and Mr Methenge's removal take immediate effect. [Text] [*Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 15 Jan 85 EA*]

SOMALIA

Samantar Makes Official Visit to Italy

For Rome ANSA reportage on the visit to Italy by Lieutenant General Mohamed Ali Samantar, first vice president and defense minister, including his meetings with Italian Defense Minister Giovanni Spadolini and Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti, see the Italy & the Vatican section of the 16 January Western Europe *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

TANZANIA

Communique on Visit by Sudanese First Vice President

JN141823 Khartoum SUNA in English 1745 GMT 14 JAN 85

[Text] Khartoum Rabi' al-Thani 22, Jan 14 (SUNA) — A joint communique between Sudan and Tanzania was issued at 7 h. (local time) in both countries following the official 3-day visit by First Vice President 'Umar Muhammad al-Tayyib to the United Republic of Tanzania.

The First Vice President 'Umar Muhammad al-Tayyib and Tanzania Vice President and President of Zanzibar Ali Hasan Mwinyi and their accompaning deputations have held official constructive talks during which they affirmed the necessity of boosting the Organization of African Unity, OAU, and their total support for the Namibian people under the leadership of the Southwest African People's Organization (SWAPO) till the independence, the communique said.

The joint communique explained the visit of Al-Tayyib comes in response to the invitation extended by Mwinyi and lasted for three days, from 11 to the 14 of current January. During the visit Al-Tayyib met with President Julius Nyerere, the current chairman of the OAU, and exchanged views on issues of mutual interest.

The talks between the Sudanese delegation headed by Al-Tayyib and the Tanzanian headed by Mwinyi centred on bilateral relations and cooperation between the two countries beside African and international issues of mutual concern, the joint communique said.

The two officials expressed their satisfaction over the progress of relations between the two countries and hailed the efforts exerted by joint ministerial committee in this regard. They further exchanged viewpoints over the developments in the two countries in the economic, political and social spheres, the communique said.

Al-Tayyib hailed the progress Tanzania withnessed since the 1964 revolution.

The two sides agreed on establishing a relief fund for combating drought and hunger in Africa.

Touching on the question of South Africa, the two sides firmly condemned the apartheid and called for the international community to back and support, morally and materially, the African movements fighting this racist regime of South Africa, the communique said.

Peace will not be reached in the Middle East unless Israel withdraw from all the occupied Arab lands and unless it recognize the legal rights of the Palestinian people under the leadership of the PLO, the communique said.

The two officials further expressed hope for bettering Afro-Arab relations, pointing out to the outstanding role Sudan plays in this regard.

Al-Tayyib thanked the Tanzanian officials for the warm welcome they accorded to Sudanese delegation. He further invited Mwinyi to visit Sudan. Mwinyi accepted the invitation. The date of the visit is to be fixed later on.

UGANDA

Obote Receives Delegation From Bulgaria

EA152035 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Excerpt] President Obote today received a delegation from the People's Republic of Bulgaria, led by Mr (Jovis Sakleif), member of the National Council of the Fatherland Front of Bulgaria, who paid a courtesy call on him in Parliament Buildings this morning. Dr Obote and the delegation exchanged views on a wide range of issues affecting cooperation between Uganda and Bulgaria.

Mr (Sakleif) assured the president of the Bulgarian people's commitment to mutual cooperation with the people of Uganda for the benefit and prosperity of the two countries. He hoped the (?earlier) agreement signed between the Uganda People's Congress [UPC] and the Fatherland Front of Bulgaria will contribute greatly to the future cooperation of the two countries.

Dr Obote assured the delegation that Uganda will do everything possible to fulfill the terms of the agreement. He told them that the UPC is a forward looking party which belongs to the peasants, workers, and the youths.

Briefs

DPRK, PRC Envoys Depart — The ambassador of the DPRK, Mr Chang Tai-hui, has bid farewell to Prime Minister Otema Alimadi at the Uganda International Conference Center. He thanked Uganda for its unreserved support and cooperation that it has extended to Korea. He said Korea was satisfied with Uganda's development, noting that the Korean Government and the people of Korea take Uganda's success as theirs. The outgoing Chinese ambassador, Mr Li Shi, who also bid farewell to the prime minister, (?said) the relationship between the two countries was growing stronger and that things were getting better in Uganda. He explained that China had adopted the open door policy because, he said, without diversity there would be no future. [Excerpts] [*Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 15 Jan 85 EA*]

CAMEROON

Ivorian Foreign Minister Brings Message for Biya

AB151028 Dakar PANA In French 0929 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Text] Yaounde, 15 Jan (CAMNEWS/PANA) — Ivorian Foreign Minister Simeon Ake has expressed the desire that the second session of the Ivorian-Cameroonian Joint Commission should be held very soon in Abidjan.

Cameroon and Ivory Coast are achieving much progress in the field of development, which requires an exchange of experiences in order to correct mistakes, Mr Ake said on Saturday after handing to Cameroonian President Paul Biya a message from his Ivorian counterpart, Mr Houphouet-Boigny. "Cooperation between Cameroon and Ivory Coast is satisfactory," he added.

Country To Host 4-Nation Lake Chad Security Meeting

AB150942 Paris AFP in English 0717 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Text] Lagos, Jan 15 (AFP) — Heads of joint security around Lake Chad are to meet again in the first week of February in Marwa, Cameroon, to seek a coordinated patrols system for the lake area, the NIGERIAN NEWS AGENCY reported Monday, quoting Lake Chad Basin Commission Executive Secretary Mustapha Sam. At their first gathering last week in Maiduguri, northeastern Nigeria, delegates from Chad, Nigeria, Cameroon and Niger failed to agree on common security modalities, but Mr Sam reportedly said this was because some of the 30 participants had requested time to consult their home governments. He meanwhile blamed the reduction in the volume of water at the basin on the severe drought ravaging most parts of Africa's Sahel region. The lake relies on the rivers Shari and Logu as major sources of water. According to another official of the basin authority, Bunu Musa, the persistent dry weather had made the water level recede so much that supply was now lacking for the both Chad irrigation projects.

BURKINA

CDR Calls for Soumane Toure Court Martial

AB152300 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 15 Jan 85

["Communique" issued in Ouagadougou on 15 January by the General Assembly of the Kadiogo section of the Committee for the Defense of the Revolution, CDR — read by (Marlin Ilbodo), delegate from Section 4]

[Text] The fight against mind poisoning: Since the launching of the revolutionary process in our country, national and international reaction, taking advantage of the tolerance of the established institutions, have continued to abuse the people's trust with various kinds of mind-poisoning tactics. Some individuals, motivated either by some hypocritical personal interest or by some leftist foolhardiness, and others who joined the movement through mere political calculations, were quickly exposed. Tracked down from all sides, these individuals look for every opportunity to sow confusion and demobilization in the minds of the people who are already liberated and vigilant.

Today we are faced with a typical case of mind poisoning, and the need for mobilization has arisen. This is the case of Soumane Toure. Who is he and what does he want? He is a political and trade union anarchist who cannot be dissociated from imperialist pay. He is pretentious and ambitious like the frog that wanted to be bigger than the cow. This Soumane Toure took advantage of the workers' trust to shape himself into the image of a Zorro, who can cause the downfall of any authority [words indistinct].

Claiming to be the initiator of the revolution, this Soumane Toure had only Machiavellian ideas, which found expression in his 1 May 1984 speech at the Trade Union Hall; the opportunist statement he made on Radio France International; his attempt to take over the Post and Telecommunications Corporation, the former Upper Volta Electricity Company, and national television; and his march on the mayor's office, which were aborted thanks to the vigilance of militants. [Words indistinct] once again accentuated his challenge of creating doubt and uncertainty in the minds of the Burkinabe people by his 12 December 1984 statement during the 9th anniversary of the 17 and 18 December 1975 celebrations, and his statement on 9 January 1985 at the seventh session of the People's Revolutionary Tribunals [TPR] of Bobo-Dioulasso sitting in Ouagadougou. From his various positions, we notice that this Soumane Toure is running after a utopian desire to obtain state power in order to make himself a martyr.

Having already alerted the National Council of the Revolution [CNR] about the danger that these political bandits constitute through the recommendation of 2 September 1984, namely, to bring them to trial at a revolutionary court martial, we, the sectional CDR of the Kadiogo Province, once again want to accomplish our mission. In conformity with Article 2 of the general statute of the CDR and the warning given by the comrade president of Faso in Pora, we quote, lies will be exposed, provocation will be given a vigorous and implacable answer. In short, mind poisoning and disturbances will be nipped in the bud, unquote. We want a clarification to be made on the allegation of embezzlement of billions of CFA francs under the CNR at the TPR.

Furthermore, since Soumane Toure has disobeyed the revolutionary institutions of our country and considering his arrogance toward the TPR, an emanation of the people, as well as his statement at the TPR, which was aimed at destabilizing and undermining state security, we reiterate the recommendation of 2 September 1984.

Forward with the CNR! Forward with the people's democratic revolution! Forward with the people's justice! Forward with a permanent vigilance! Campaigns of falsehood and mind poisoning will never succeed! The fatherland or death, we shall win!

[Issued by] The General Assembly of the Kadiogo section of the CDR.

GAMBIA

Jawara To Visit London for IPC Consultations

AB152025 Paris AFP in French 1856 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Excerpts] Banjul, 15 Jan (AFP) — Gambian President Sir Dawda Jawara will visit London on Tuesday for consultations within the framework of the Islamic Peace Committee [IPC], of which he is the chairman, it was learned from an informed source in Banjul.

According to the source, the chairman of the IPC might also visit capitals of Arab countries that have good relations with the warring parties, notably Tripoli, Damascus, and Jidda.

In another development, it is stated that President Jawara will go to Bissau at the end of the month to participate in a meeting of the Gambia River Development Organization, which groups Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Guinea, and Senegal.

GHANA

EEC Auditors Arrive To Inspect Projects

AB151910 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Text] A delegation of auditors from the European Economic Community has arrived in Accra to inspect the operations of the community in Ghana. The leader of the four-member team, Mr Patrick Everard, disclosed that on the average, the EEC grants Ghana 20 million dollars annually in the form of aid for development projects. The mission is therefore to ensure that all the money has been properly utilized. Mr Everard said the findings of the delegation will be submitted to the European Parliament along with others for a debate on whether to increase, maintain, or reduce aid to defaulting countries.

The resident representative of the EEC in Ghana, Dr (Dieter Schmidt), said aid granted by the community has been very encouraging. Part of it is used to promote agriculture, develop

industry, and maintain the transports sector. The aid is also partly used to indemnify the government when applying for loans. Dr (Schmidt) said so far the community has participated in the food aid program and in projects like the rural banks, food, and microprojects, national investments bank credit agreements, and the offering of scholarships for the training of Ghanaians both at home and abroad. It also jointly financed the Kpong hydroelectric project and is now helping to rehabilitate some mines and the Twifo oil palm projects.

The delegation will hold discussions with some secretaries of state and visit some of the projects being financed by the EEC. It will be in the country for 10 days.

IVORY COAST

Reportage on Visit by Egypt's Butrus Ghali

Meets With Houphouet

AB152130 Abidjan Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Text] Butrus Ghali, the Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, is continuing his official visit to the Ivory Coast. He held talks and had lunch today with President Houphouet-Boigny in Yamoussoukro. During the audience the head of state granted him, Mr Ghali delivered a message from the Egyptian head of state, Husni Mubarak, to President Houphouet-Boigny.

At the residence of the Egyptian ambassador to the Ivory Coast this evening, Minister Ghali received the African ambassadors accredited to Abidjan, to whom he outlined Egyptian policy on major African problems, particularly those of the Middle East. The Egyptian minister has been hosting a reception in honor of all the ambassadors accredited to our country since 6:30 pm.

At 8:30 this evening, the two foreign ministers, Simeon Ake and Butrus Ghali, will meet again for a private dinner at Simeon Ake's residence.

Before leaving Abidjan tomorrow for Bamako, Mr Ghali will be received in the morning by Ministers Bra-Kanon and Jean Konan Banny. The Egyptian foreign minister will then sign, along with his Ivorian counterpart, Simeon Ake, a treaty of friendship and cooperation, which is to link the Ivory Coast to Egypt.

Signs Friendship Treaty

NC161040 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0945 GMT 16 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Abidjan, 16 Jan (MENA) — Egypt and the Ivory Coast have signed a treaty of friendship and also an agreement on technical, scientific, and cultural cooperation.

The treaty and the agreement were signed today by Dr Butrus Ghali, Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, and Simeon Ake, Ivorian minister of foreign affairs.

Under the treaty, the two states pledge to work together for peace in Africa, to resolve differences by peaceful means, and to strengthen bilateral relations in the fields of agriculture, culture, trade, and technology. A joint higher committee will also be formed and will meet once every 2 years on the ministerial level.

Under the cooperation agreement, the Egyptian Technical Cooperation Fund will send experts and technicians to the Ivory Coast and will offer scholarships to Ivorian students for studies at Egyptian institutes.

Leaves for Mali

NC161041 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1000 GMT 16 Jan 85

[Text] Abidjan, 16 Jan (MENA) — Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, and his delegation left Abidjan for Bamako today for a few days' visit to Mali.

During the visit Dr Ghali will deliver a message from President Husni Mubarak to Malian President Moussa Traore.

Dr Ghali's visit to Mali is part of a tour of three African countries; namely, the Ivory Coast, Mali, and Senegal.

FRATERNITE MATIN on New Ties, Foreign Policy

AB152245 Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN in French 15 Jan 85 p 23

[Gaoussou Kamissoko commentary: "From Yamoussoukro to Tirana"]

[Text] The Ivory Coast established diplomatic relations with Saudi Arabia, the DPRK, the GDR, Albania, and Uruguay last week. This could only stir some reaction from all those who take an interest in the developments of a country which, through hasty classification, has been aligned with one of the two dominant ideologies of our planet.

Saudi Arabia, whose petrodollars have enabled it to play a predominant role on the international financial scene for the past few years, could logically fit into the economic options of an Ivory Coast whose liberation has been a success. But in the cases of the DPRK, the GDR, and above all the far away Albania (both geographically and ideologically), the choice seems to contradict the simplistic rules of the traditional bipolar conflict. Such views on Ivory Coast's international relations have only the appearance of truth. The mistake is that this option does not take into account the basic rules of Ivorian foreign policy. One has merely to pay a little attention to the harmonious trend of Ivorian foreign policy to see continuity and coherence through the apparent contradiction.

The key word is neutrality, which was asserted as early as the first years of independence. This neutrality could not be lowered to opportunistic behavior by giving way to pressures from one superpower or the other. This policy is a condition for peace and for shared economic progress, and it is in turn consolidated by the gains of economic development, without which no independent policy can be achieved.

The Ivorian option was all the more justified because of developments in international relations in the 1970's. It appeared that some facts and crises of this period would inaugurate a new era during which the hegemony of the superpowers would be questioned. The rise of "proletarian nations" showed some cracks in the world order based on cheap energy.

In October 1973, the increase in oil prices introduced the questioning of an order which was based on unequal trade, and made it possible to start a similar move for the other raw materials. A series of political "crises" that did not correspond to the classic bipolar conflict scheme, were added to this new order.

What is interesting about these sometimes violent developments (Southeast Asia) is that they show new decision-making poles of unequal importance but which are consistent enough to disturb the superpowers' two-man game, to legitimize the use of the neutrality policy advocated by the Ivory Coast, and to also legitimize the respect of other people's options because they are the expression of their specific needs. But neutrality does not mean a closed-door policy and the Ivory Coast demonstrated this fact early on through its relations with the East, first with Moscow (1 year) and then with Poland, Romania, Yugoslavia, and recently with Beijing.

It was just after the first congress of the Democratic Party of the Ivory Coast after independence that President Houphouet-Boigny clearly stated his country's external policy: "In addition to the Western countries with which we keep friendly relations, we will not refuse to have diplomation relations...with the Eastern countries that pledge to respect our institutions...."

Establishing diplomatic relations does not imply any commitment to an ideology. Although the Ivory Coast has had privileged relations with France for 20 years, it abstained from having any diplomatic relations with China, which is fully recognized by Paris. When the same Ivory Coast judged that the time was ripe, it established relations with Beijing.

Is the Ivory Coast dragging international capitalism behind? Is the Ivory Coast a satellite of the East? It is simply an Ivorian Ivory Coast, which in spite of its policy has developed a social policy that has attracted many disillusioned people who used to live under "dictatorship against proletariat" regimes. The Ivory Coast's economic and social achievements prevent it from being dominated today and enable it to diversify its relations with due respect to its partners without being compelled to belong to stillborn ideological coalitions, as current developments sadly show.

LIBERIA

Two People Object to Unity Party's Registration

AB151123 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0655 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Text] A deadline for objections to the provision of the documents of the Unity Party [UP] has ended at the Temple of Justice with only two persons requesting the court to suspend the registration process of the party. The clerk of court at the weekend reportedly informed the judge, Eugenia R. Thompson, that only two persons had requested the court to suspend the processing of the UP's papers until their objections were filed.

The two men have been named as (Ndabo Aboli) and (Ndamo Lowarn), both of Grand Gedeh County. They are said to be alleging that there were irregularities in the [words indistinct] of the UP and that time be given them to file their objections in the court.

It can be recalled that on 3 December last year, the *NEW LIBERIAN* newspaper revealed that a number of concerned citizens had challenged the strategy [words indistinct] at the time. [passage indistinct]

MALI

Traore Receives PLO Envoy, 'Arafat Message

AB142245 Bamako Domestic Service in French 2015 GMT 14 Jan 85

[Text] General Moussa Traore, president of the Republic, this afternoon received in audience an envoy of the PLO, (Sulayman al-Harati), bearing a message of gratitude of the PLO for Mali. During the audience, the head of state renewed Mali's constant and unflinching support for the just struggle of the Palestinian people. It should be noted that the situation in the Middle East and the revival of Arab-African dialogue for fruitful and fraternal cooperation was also discussed at the audience. At the end of the audience, (Sulayman al-Harati) talked with Oumar Diko about the discussions he held with the head of state.

[Begin recording] [(Al-Harati)] I have come to Bamako today with a message of friendship, brotherhood, and gratitude from brother Yassir 'Arafat to his excellency mr president of the Republic for the firm and solid support the government, the party, and the people of Mali give to the Palestinian cause.

[Diko] Your Excellency, we know that the burning issue in the Middle East now is the transfer of the Falasha, or black Jews, from Ethiopia to Israel. What is your organization's position on this affair?

[(Al-Harati)] We say that [words indistinct] in the whole of Africa where the drought and famine is raging. It is not only the Falasha. We think there is some sort of propaganda in (?evacuating) some thousands of Falashas from their country and in expelling the Palestinians from their land and replacing them with Ethiopians. That is why we have called on the whole world (?to focus their attention) on the Palestinian and Ethiopian peoples. [end recording]

NIGERIA

Lagos Comments on Financial Contributions to ECOWAS

AB151655 Lagos International Service in English 0950 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Viewpoint]

[Text] After more than 9 years in existence, the Economic Community of West African States, ECOWAS, is expected to have overcome some of its teething problems so as to make tangible progress. But against the background of the continued failure of some member states to meet their financial obligations to the organization, the community has not made appreciable advance toward its goals.

Indeed, all those who are keenly interested in the affairs of the community must have been deeply jostled by last week's report in Lagos that for the past 6 years some of the community members have not paid a kobo for their dues to the Secretariat. This was the fact that saddened the former executive secretary of ECOWAS, Dr Aboubakar Ouattara, who held up this post since the inception of the community about 9 years ago.

At a ceremony in Lagos, Dr Ouattara told his successor, Mr Momodu Munu, that as at the end of 1984, only 3 of the 16 member states — Nigeria, Niger, and Ivory Coast — were up to date with their contributions. This clearly (?answers) the present situation. It cannot be argued that the three regular contributors are immune from the effects of the current world economic recession. They are all in the (?throes) of the current economic phenomenon. But their ability to meet their obligations must have resulted from their political will to ensure the success of ECOWAS, which represents the best instrument for the rapid promotion of economic development in the West African subregion.

It is the political will, therefore, that has to be rekindled by every member state so that the dream of ECOWAS becomes a reality in no distant time. And since finance is the most essential ingredient in all development efforts, it becomes imperative for ECOWAS member states to strive hard to give their community the necessary financial backing.

It is a long established fact that regional development can best be promoted by pooling up resources in an organization such as ECOWAS. In fact, the new executive secretary of ECOWAS, Mr Munu, reiterated this (?issue) while assuming office in Lagos. He said: Integration is our only salvation, for it is by pooling our resources and increasing trade among ourselves that we can ever hope to remove our economies from the vicious cycle of poverty, exploitation, and backwardness. This accords with the Lagos Plan of Action for economic grouping drawn up by the OAU at its economic summit held in the Nigerian capital in 1980. The plan envisages economic growth and integration through the formation of regional groupings such as ECOWAS.

Therefore, the ECOWAS member states who saw the need for economic integration and development by launching the community some 9 years ago have a binding duty to ensure the survival of the groupings by promptly and regularly discharging their financial and other obligations toward it.

SIERRA LEONE

Presidential Elections To Be Held in June

AB160814 Paris AFP in English 0718 GMT 16 Jan 85

[Text] Freetown, Jan 16 (AFP) — Sierra Leone is to have presidential elections in June, the Central Committee of the All People's Congress (APC) decided here Tuesday at a meeting chaired by President Siaka Stevens as party secretary-general. It said a national delegates conference — the body which elects the president — would meet for four days in April. Six bye-elections for parliament and one for paramount chief would be held next month, the committee said. The APC is the country's only legal party. President Stevens first took office in April 1971. At the time of the last general election for parliament in 1982 he said he would be standing down from the presidency.

Government Delegation Leaves for Vienna

AB151138 Paris AFP in French 0901 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Text] Freetown, 15 Jan (AFP) — It was learned in Freetown on Monday that a high-level Sierra Leonean Government delegation led by the second vice president, Francis Minah, had left Freetown for Vienna to deliver a message from President Siaka Stevens to the Austrian president, Rudolph Kirchschlaeger. This delegation includes, in particular, the minister of foreign affairs, Sheka Kanu, and the minister of mines, Hassan Kanu. The reasons for this visit were not disclosed, but, according to observers in Freetown, it could be linked with the negotiations currently taking place between the two countries on the future of Sierra Leone's important iron ore deposit. An Austrian mining company is participating in working this deposit.

President Stevens Meets With U.S. Envoy Walters

AB151630 Paris AFP in English 1420 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Text] Freetown, Jan 15 (AFP) — General Vernon Walters, U.S. President Ronald Reagan's ambassador-at-large, today left Sierra Leone after talks during which President Siaka Stevens urged the United States to put pressure on South Africa in order to bring about independence for Namibia. Gen Walters and Mr Stevens are also believed to have discussed the recent meeting between U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko in Geneva. Gen Walters was due to leave here today for Nigeria on the last leg of his current African tour. He had earlier visited the west African state of Guinea, which borders Sierra Leone.

ANGOLA

Voice of Truth on MPLA 'Lies' About Savimbi

MB160750 (Clandestine) Voice of Truth in Portuguese to Angola 2000 GMT 14 Jan 85

[Text] Friends and comrades: As we progress further into this new year of our struggle for a finally free and independent Angola, news items from last year continue to arrive at our desk. These news items very clearly show that the MPLA radicals are fighting a desperate battle.

Once again, we have had confirmation that, in terms of an Angola which belongs solely to the Angolans, in terms of all Angolans who struggle toward the same objective — to free Angola from all foreign forces — the struggle of the radicals is lost. Their days are numbered.

Thus one understands why the MPLA radicals use propaganda lies to try to affect the morale of the population. That was, in fact, what happened in the middle of December 1984, when the MPLA circulated the news at home and abroad that forces of the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola, supported by Cubans and Soviets, had attacked UNITA's main base in the south. In one of these attacks, they claimed, they had seriously wounded President Dr Jonas Savimbi. Subsequently, other intelligence, which was no more than rumor, was disseminated, a typical tactic of the MPLA radicals. These rumors had it that Savimbi had been captured or that he had even been killed.

Dear friends and comrades, all that amounted to no more than a great lie spread by the MPLA to mislead the people and the world, and to try to create confusion. In reality, this was a desperate ploy which proves to all Angolans that the MPLA radicals are on their last legs. We do not need to deny these rumors through the "Voice of Truth" program; UNITA's President Dr Jonas Savimbi himself was the first to prove that the MPLA has lied yet again.

We have been informed that he, Dr Jonas Savimbi, invited international journalists to visit his base and see with their own eyes that nothing had happened, that he was well, and that he had been neither wounded nor captured nor killed. Thus, the MPLA's false propaganda was shortlived. In the end, the world understood just how desperate the MPLA radicals are, to the extent that they are forced to resort to false rumors to try to save themselves from their current terrible situation.

The people are going to intensify their struggle; we want Angola to belong to the Angolans alone.

MADAGASCAR

Briefs

PRC Envoy Departs — The outgoing Chinese ambassador to Madagascar, Mr Dai Ping, met this morning with Mr Joseph Bedo, Malagasy minister of transportation, supply, and tourism [title as heard], at Toamasina. They discussed methods of increasing cooperation between the PRC and Madagascar in the fields of transportation, supply, and tourism. [Text] [*Antananarivo Domestic Service in French 1030 GMT 15 Jan MB*]

MOZAMBIQUE

Government Official Comments on U.S. Military Aid

MB151940 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Text] The United States will supply limited military assistance to Mozambique, a spokesman of the U.S. State Department announced in Washington yesterday. The news was confirmed to AIM by Peter Jon de Vos, the ambassador of the United States in Maputo. The U.S. ambassador told AIM that a military team from his country will arrive in Maputo soon to finalize the details of this assistance. He added that the military assistance will be in the form of military training for the Mozambican Army. The U.S. State Department spokesman had said that the Reagan administration had decided on this form of military support in view of the considerable improvements registered in the last 2 years of relations between the United States and Mozambique. He added that the assistance to Mozambique would serve to help make the Mozambican Armed Forces professional.

In a statement to AIM, a member of the Mozambican Government said that it has always been our position to solicit military and other kinds of assistance from all countries. He added that every kind of support is welcome, as long as it does not compromise our sovereignty. This member of our country's government recalled the international appeal for military assistance to Mozambique made by the UN Security Council in 1978, when the country was a victim of daily attacks from Rhodesia. He also recalled other international appeals made during the struggle against Portuguese colonialism and also against Rhodesian acts of aggression as well as against South African and armed bandit attacks.

Supplies Parachuted to 'Bandits' in Sofala

MB151800 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Text] A Dakota plane was detected in the Gorongosa area of Sofala Province on the evening of (?13) December 1984 by the reconnaissance services of the Mozambique Armed Forces in Maringue as it was supplying additional war materiel to the armed bandits. The type of plane that dropped the supplies by parachute is similar to the ones the South Africans used in

Gorongosa to resupply the armed bandits. This fact was also confirmed by an armed bandit captured by our forces in Maringue, who said he witnessed the supply drop. The bandit was captured with his weapon.

Briefs

DPRK Agriculture Official Visits — (Pak Chin-tan), the vice chairman of the DPRK's agriculture committee, arrived today in Quelimane, Zambezia Province, to visit a rice production unit where North Korean technicians are working. [Summary] [*Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 14 Jan 85 MB*]

SOUTH AFRICA

R.F. Botha Welcomes Dos Santos Remarks on Talks

MB160711 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 16 Jan 85

[Text] The South African minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, has welcomed the speech made by President Jose Eduardo dos Santos of Angola, in which he repeated his willingness to negotiate with South Africa and the United States on the [word indistinct] issues of independence for South-West Africa/Namibia and the withdrawal of the Cuban troops from Angola.

Speaking in Cape Town, Mr Botha said his government reciprocated the sentiments expressed by President dos Santos. With regard to remarks made by the Angolan head of state concerning the disengagement of South African forces from southern Angola, Mr Botha said the matter was being dealt with by the joint South African/Angolan monitoring commission.

Buthelezi Comments on Arms Cache Find in Natal

MB151551 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Text] The chief minister of KwaZulu, Chief Gatsha Buthelezi, says he had been aware for months of the presence of the cache of arms uncovered in the Nongoma area of northern Natal yesterday morning. Speaking at Ulundi, he said it had been his police who had informed the South African security police of the find, which he described as the largest cache of arms ever found in South Africa.

The discovery, he said, showed that those who were determined to use violence did not actually know what to do with their weapons. Chief Buthelezi said it was disturbing that the latest discovery of an arms cache had been made in an area under his jurisdiction.

Four people were killed in a gun battle with ANC terrorists at the house where the arms were discovered. They were a member of the South African security police, Lieutenant Jan Janse van Vuuren, and three unidentified black men. The search for the terrorists is continuing.

Black Organization Urges Jackson To Cancel Visit

MB151255 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Excerpt] In Johannesburg a black conciousness group that last week disrupted the South African tour by the American politician, Senator Edward Kennedy, has urged the American civil rights activist, the Reverend Jesse Jackson, to call off the visit next month.

A former president of the Azanian People's Organization [AZAPO], Mr Lybon Mabaso, said the time was not ripe for Mr Jackson to visit South Africa. Mr Mabaso said AZAPO would take action if Mr Jackson visited South Africa, but did not elaborate.

AZAPO demonstrators dogged Senator Kennedy at almost every phase of his visit, forcing him to cancel a planned major speech in the city of Soweto on the last day of his tour.

Johannesburg: 'Consensus' Politics Key to Progress

MB160918 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 16 Jan 85

[Station commentary: "South Africa's Answer"]

[Text] One American politician has just departed South Africa's shores bearing his list of prescriptions to the country with him, and another, similarly armed, is due to arrive in the next few weeks.

In the lull, an event that aptly symbolizes South Africa's answer to all such crusaders with their comfortable constitutional packages and instant solutions takes place in Cape Town today. The joint standing committees of Parliament, which have been described as the corner stone of the new constitutional dispensation, will hold their first meeting. Twenty bills are already on the agenda for their consideration before submission to Parliament.

The committees are the parliamentary institutions that most fundamentally represent the country's abandonment of Westminster's winner-takes-all politics. They are the major instruments for conducting consensus politics, the politics of negotiating differences among groups with various demands to draft decisions with standpoints that all are able to support. The committees comprise representatives of all three houses of Parliament, and it is their task to examine and reach the highest degree of unanimity on all proposed legislation, even before it is submitted to the assembled Parliament. It is in fulfilling that task of reconciliation, not in the authoritarian prescriptions of any individual or group, that the essential conditions are met for producing justice, stability, and progress in South Africa's heterogeneous society.

Consensus politics is no cure-all for community differences in such societies. The new parliament that is opened next week faces a lively session. From all three houses — white, Colored, and Indian — parties will be coming together, each with its own aspirations and set of legislative priorities, and each will naturally be intent on giving effect to as much of its political program as

is practicable. The style of negotiation and the consensus politics does not minimize the inevitable differences. What it does provide is an approach, a pervasive style, that transforms intransigent confrontation into constructive cooperation to establish common ground, and, on that foundation, to reach political decisions of which the durability is assured by the perception of each community that it has been fairly treated.

These days the public focus of the approach is sharpest on the new Parliament and the issues that will arise there. Just as important, however, is the growing degree to which negotiation is also the characteristic approach to problem solving in the bigger constitutional arena, that which encompases all the nations and communities in the region.

At some time, for example, the senior Cabinet committee that has been investigating the constitutional position of blacks outside the national and independent states, will be reporting to Parliament. And that committee has been engaged for many months in negotiations with black leaders of all communities and at all levels, working towards the common ground and the jointly agreed standpoints that must meet the legitimate requirements of all concerned.

Negotiation is a time consuming process, requiring considerable political expertise, but in a divided society, it is the only approach that works in achieving benefits for all communities and in guaranteeing the security of each.

ANC's Tambo's Remarks To Kennedy in Lusaka

MB151034 Lusaka Radio Freedom in English 1700 GMT 14 Jan 85

[ANC President Oliver Tambo's remarks to Senator Edward Kennedy at State House in Lusaka on 13 January]

[Text] [Begin Tambo recording] Senator Edward Kennedy, you had decided before you left the United States to put the ANC on your itinerary, and we have looked forward to this occasion. We are very grateful that you should think of doing so, especially because you decided — we think quite correctly — to call here after your travels in South Africa. We thank you very much indeed for this opportunity. We looked forward to the meeting because we have met you in Washington. We were very greatly impressed by you then. Over the years we have had no cause to feel any less impressed by your performance against apartheid, but we thought it was especially useful that you should speak for yourself, (?because your positions) were correct. Without making any direct contact, we think that your own position has been immensely reinforced by the visit to our country.

We should like to extend the greetings of the leadership and membership of the ANC to you and members of your family and staff. It is too late for us to welcome you to Africa, but let us nonetheless say you are most welcome.

We have followed your travels in our country with a very, very keen interest. We gained the impression that you have performed marvelously, that it was not a dull trip, that you ran into numerous petty storms, we think, which I think should have deepened your experience of that country. We had hoped, of course, that you would have your impressions, your assessments, having been there. There are certain things we share together about South Africa, and that is our hatred and dislike of the apartheid system. We have our impressions of how to go about resolving that problem, and we were very keenly interested to know what impressions you take away, back to the United States.

We hope that you have dismissed in your mind the (?impositions), the little demonstrations which were held against you. They are groups who are largely immature, with no experience of international relations, the value of friends [as heard], and have never been exposed to the work of (?solidarity) which the ANC has been engaged in. We can tell a friend when we see him. They cannot. I am afraid we have deployed little effort in educating them about these things, but they have taken absurd positions, and I think they will themselves realize that. I do hope that you will treat that as something of no consequence, and I think your message got across to the regime and to our people, and I am sure that it will get across to the international community. [end recording]

Comrade Oliver Tambo further explained the stand of the ANC, in regard to the apartheid system in South Africa.

[Begin Tambo Recording] The ANC is convinced from day to day that it is we who have the solution to the problem of apartheid. The ANC has got a program, policy, and objective, which is designed to meet the best interests of the people of South Africa, of all races, a program which attacks the very foundations of the apartheid system. It attacks its operations, its structures. We have sought to put this across to those who rule South Africa today. They have as yet shown no indication of accepting our position.

We have tried various methods to bring our wishes home [words indistinct]. We have tried various methods of convincing them that our status in South Africa as a people cannot endure indefinitely. Some of the methods we have used have been seldom used by oppressed people. For 10 years we were engaged in very militant [word indistinct] demonstrations, defiance of unjust laws [word indistinct] against a policy of violence that was unprecedented in the history of South Africa. No government has been as violent as the apartheid [words indistinct]. We persisted in the face of killings, even being beaten up, minor massacres after the Sharpeville massacre. We were trying to communicate with the electorate in South Africa. We failed. Instead we were confronted with the whole South African Army.

We decided then that nonviolence had run its course, and we must embrace violence. We were cautious in our employment of violence. (?With) sabotage, we took care to injure no one, and that is basically still the policy of the ANC, more than 20 years later. We have hesitated — perhaps incorrectly — about rapid escalation. We do not think we can hesitate any longer. But we thought intervention of the international communicy would make it unnecessary for the South African situation to become terribly violent. We have done enough to indicate that we have the capacity to be very violent.

There are many people who wonder why we are exercising all this restraint. We thought South Africa might listen to the international public. It has not done so. We thought pressure might bring them to their senses. It is clear to us that those pressures have not been adequate. They need to be increased.

We saw the role of the international community as expressing its opinion unambiguously. I think you have been doing that in South Africa, you have been most categorical, explicit. You have reflected the position of the international community in your statements. But we know that they have closed their ears, their minds, to international opinion for most of the time.

Then we asked ourselves the question: What do we do? It is inconceivable that a system so inhuman can be allowed by humanity to continue, totally inconceivable that we as human beings could endure it indefinitely. And as far as we are concerned, we are reaching a position when we are going to throw off restraint, simply because it has not been very rewarding. We think the international community should throw off restraint. [end recording]

Finally, Comrade Oliver Tambo explained why there is a need to impose sanctions against apartheid.

[Begin Tambo recording] Suggestions, like sanctions, selective sanctions, disinvestment, all these forms of pressure are very hurtful to the system. And we know that, because the protests come from those who benefit from the system. Business communities will defend the system against sanctions, because sanctions hit them. Disinvestment is opposed by the business community, because it operates against their immediate interests. Apartheid is a great reward for business, (?it provides) a population of mere slaves, semi-slaves. Three and a half (?million) dumped in the bantustans, ready to grab at any job, at any wage. Six thousand five hundred workers can be dismissed by South African Coal, Oil, and Gas Corporation with the stroke of a pen, and the following day they have 6,500 from this pool of unemployed, hungry people in the reserves. So they need not worry; apartheid suits them very well. Apartheid keeps these slaves in the bantustans, ready. So business has really very little to say about [word indistinct] apartheid, hence their resistance to disinvestment.

But disinvestment, sanctions, and really hurtful forms of intervention which are peaceful have the advantage that they aim not at the individual firm. They are not about creating jobs for unemployed Africans. Goodness knows, millions of them are unemployed, and have never been employed. Sanctions to disinvest aim at the apartheid system itself, even if in the process, the victims have to make sacrifices in terms of even hunger and unemployment. But if in the process, we can bring apartheid to its knees, then the problem of this crime against humanity will have been solved.

Those who argue about these sanctions say it will hurt the Africans first. We agree that it will hurt them first. But they will be the first to benefit from the consequences of sanctions, which is the end of the apartheid system, not sanctions alone, but other forms of pressure. These are people who are ready to die, in order that they can (?sing). I do not think that they are worried about losing jobs, because having jobs has not helped them to [words indistinct].

Generally, then, if anything, we see very good reason why the pressure should be intensified. There is no alternative. The alternative is the escalation of the conflict within the country. I think it must be accepted that our people have not bowed down to the apartheid system. They are increasingly becoming terribly impatient, ready to sacrifice, and we think that the immediate future is one of serious trouble for South Africa, for all South Africans. Still, the position is not desperate. We think the worst could be avoided, if the international community came in. [end recording]

ANC Radio Program Supports Economic Sanctions

MB152020 Lusaka Radio Freedom in English 1700 GMT 15 Jan 85

[ANC program commentary: "Economic Sanctions"]

[Text] Economic sanctions, as one of the means whereby the criminal apartheid regime can be toppled, are again in the news. This is an upshot of the Kennedy visit to our country, which ended on Sunday. During his visit, representatives of the big industrial and commercial concerns presented memoranda to him on the question of economic sanctions. Their message: Economic sanctions would hurt the very people they are intended to help, that is, the oppressed black people. For this reason, the rich and privileged in our country are advising those who can not to impose economic sanctions against the apartheid regime. We also — the oppressed — are being canvassed to express opposition to economic sanctions, for we would suffer were they to be imposed.

All these arguments from opponents of sanctions sound so clever and altruistic, but in the final analysis they are one-sided and self-serving. The people who cruelly oppress us and rapaciously exploit us have the effrontery to present themselves as people who care what happens to us tomorrow. They use (?true facts) to defend a false system. The thesis that they are opposed to economic sanctions, for they would hurt Africans the most, is false. But the fact that we would be unemployed if sanctions were to be imposed, that we would suffer more than we do under the present conditions where there are foreign investments, are true. But one fact must be noted: Nobody ever said that with the regime under sanctions things would go on as if nothing has happened, or that our problems would be solved quickly.

Sanctions are one of many tactical measures we would have to resort to, to bring down the fascist regime and end our suffering. Sanctions must be imposed on this regime, for if they are, the economic base of our oppression would be under severe pressure. Those who oppose economic sanctions have not told us so far what their effect would be to the regime, they have only told us what is unimportant — that we would suffer. Are we not suffering now? What are they doing to end our suffering? Are we here to live a life of tolerable suffering, or are we here to live a full and uninhibited life?

The argument that we would suffer if sanctions were imposed endorses our present suffering as normal and only opposes the worsening of our present condition, and what is more, if that worsening is brought about by economic sanctions. They are not against our suffering as we experience it today, or its worsening. They are against this worsening if it is brought about by economic sanctions.

This should totally expose their hypocrisy. They are defending their own selfish interests under the cloak of being altruistic towards us. We are to be used to safeguard their interests, at the expense of our own. We must not be surprised by this. For a long time we have served as defenders of our own oppression. That is why our oppressors and exploiters boldly call upon us to do as usual.

Economic sanctions would spell doom to all the rich exploiters and would bring down the whole political-economic system that is the basis of their oppression, exploitation, and wealth. It is why the rich oppose sanctions. They oppose them, for sanctions mean poverty and economic ruin for them. This is why those who monopolize political power in their hands oppose economic sanctions. They oppose them, for sanctions would mean an end to their monopoly of political power.

They are all afraid to imagine the economic and political chaos that sanctions would bring to South Africa. After all, is South Africa's economy not based on gold mining and sales? Have we been told what would happen to that in the event of sanctions? We are only told that we would lose our employment in the mines and related industries. What about the people who are collecting the profits? What about those who need the revenue collected from gold profits?

What we have been told about the effects of economic sanctions is hardly the tip of the iceberg. We have just been told that part of the story that is supposed to scare us. But, despite that horror story, we the oppressed must support economic sanctions. We call for sanctions, for they would weaken the resistance of the oppressive and exploitative order to our blows. We are not going to stop our struggle once sanctions have been imposed. We shall strike even harder, and deliver the coup de grace. Suffering that would come as the result of sanctions is nothing compared to the collective suffering we have experienced down the years. Our suffering as a result of sanctions would be the last chapter of the voluminous book of our suffering under white colonial rule.

Those expressing horror about what would happen to us in the event of sanctions being imposed against South Africa are actually expressing horror about what would happen to them. Our attitude is: We do not care what happens to you, gentlemen, but we care very much about our freedom, and to us sanctions are one of the means whereby we shall reach our goal of freedom.

SWAZILAND

Army Mounts 'Massive' Search for Gunmen

MB160515 Mbabane THE TIMES OF SWAZILAND in English 16 Jan 85 p 1

[Text] Umbutfo — Swaziland Defence Force soldiers yesterday mounted a massive search for mystery gunmen suspected to have been hiding in the forests around Malagwane Mvutshini, and Mdzimba.

The troops who were in camouflage uniforms cordoned off the forests and combed the area systematically towards the foot of the Mdzimba Mountain. *THE TIMES* was unable to obtain information on the outcome of the search or the identity of the fugitives the soldiers were looking for.

A senior spokesman for army headquarters said the search was mounted with the aim of tracing unknown gunmen believed to be hiding in the bush.

Captain Dlamini said the army was also looking for any suspicious persons or objects while on the operation in these places.

Police Commissioner Mr Majaji Simelane said he believed some of the culprits had fled to Mozambique where they are hiding. "However, we still believe that some of them are still hiding in the forests, and caves within the country. The search for them is still continuing until we satisfy ourselves that they are all out," said the police chief yesterday.

Captain Dlamini further said that such operations are heavily concentrated in the urban areas between Manzini and Mbabane.

He also said that such operations in the rural areas are conducted by the Border Guards.

"Such operations shall carry on until we get order from our superiors to stop them from continuing. Members of the public are asked not to panic when they happen to come across the army in the forests," said Captain Dlamini.

He further said that they must not think that the soldiers are of foreign origin because they can simply be identified by their uniforms which are well known to the public.

Captain Dlamini said this while he was asked by *THE TIMES* about some of the residents and passers by at the foot of Malagwane who took to their heels when they saw the army approaching them from the forest.

Information received by *THE TIMES* during the operations is that the members of the army who were on the operation received a tip off that there were some unkown gunmen believed to be hiding in the bush where the search was conducted.

Police Say ANC Members Flee to Mozambique

MB160929 Mbabane THE SWAZI OBSERVER in English 16 Jan 85 pp 1, 5

[By Donny Nxumalo]

[Text] Most of the 23 African National Congress operators who were asked to surrender themselves to police last month, have escaped to Mozambique, said the commissioner of police, Mr Majaji Simelane, yesterday.

He said only five of them have given themselves up to the police and are now registered as genuine refugees residing in Swaziland.

Mr Simelane said they have also applied for political asylum in the country and their applications have been forwarded to higher authorities.

"It is a government decision that will grant them political asylum, certainly not us," said Mr Simelane.

He said the five surrendered themselves on their own free will and asked to be registered as refugees while they waited for their asylum applications.

It is believed that the ANC men decided to flee to Mozambique following police statements that local residents harbouring them would get into serious trouble.

At the time the ANC men were wanted it was believed they had gone to ground and were being harboured by locals who were given large sums of money.

There were also talks that anyone found hiding ANC men may be held under the 60 day detention law.

Mr Simelane would not say how the ANC men escaped to Mozambique. He said the latest information received by police was that they had gone to Mozambique.

"I do not know what Mozambique would do with them, but if they find it too hot on that side and recross to Swaziland, we will be ready for them," he added.

ZAMBIA

TIMES OF ZAMBIA Urges U.S., UK To Pressure RSA

MB151440 Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 9 Jan 85 p 1

[Text] We would like to use the presence of British Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe here to earnestly appeal to the British Government to exert pressure on the United States so that Washington can drop the linkage issue.

It is common knowledge that without the support of the United States Government, South Africa cannot afford to be intransigent. It can't survive on its own.

Yesterday, Sir Geoffrey said in Zimbabwe that his country rejected the linkage and that Whitehall's aim was to "see United Nations Security Council Resolution 435 implemented as soon as possible."

"We do not accept that Namibia's independence should be linked to an agreement on the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola or to any other issue.

"Such a linkage forms no part of the UN plan," he said, adding that "political reality dictated that there should be an arrangement over the Cuban issue which South Africa was prepared to accept."

What does Sir Geoffrey mean? We hope there is no contradiction here because we all know that South Africans are not prepared to accept anything except what they want — to maintain the status quo.

And yet what Pretoria needs is to be told in no uncertain terms that change is inevitable; and the sooner the better. It will no doubt require countries like the United Kingdom and the U.S. to push South Africa into action because they have enormous economic, political and cultural leverage over South Africa.

They cannot claim to be helpless.

So really, the onus is on Western governments to put pressure to bear on President Pieter Botha for South Africa to adopt meaningful (not half measures) reforms to avert a bloodbath in southern Africa.

As Reverend Jesse Jackson, who starts his tour of South Africa this week, said in London yesterday the West "must go beyond words" to change policies in that unhappy country.

It will mean the West generally acting like the French did in 1983 when former External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson announced that Paris had decided to pull out of the five-nation contact group on Namibia "because it cannot honestly exercise the mandate entrusted to it."

Similarly South Africa is immune to words and should not be trusted by the West. They have the economic leverage; so let them use it. After all the British say "he who pays the piper calls the tune."

That is the message Sir Geoffrey should convey especially to the Americans, when he returns to London.

ZIMBABWE

Foreign Minister Affirms Support for PLO

MB160720 Harare Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 16 Jan 85

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs, Comrade Witness Mangwende, says the wishes of the majority will triumph despite the support given to racist South Africa and Zionist Israel by Western countries.

Speaking at a reception to mark the 20th anniversary of the launching of the Palestinian armed struggle, Comrade Mangwende accused South Africa of being another Israel in Africa. He said there should be an intensification of the armed struggle by the PLO and the liberation movements in southern Africa. The minister said the PLO had made remarkable progress in the past 20 years despite the formidable odds against it.

Speaking at the same occasion, the PLO ambassador to Zimbabwe, Comrade 'Ali Halimah, thanked the government for its support against Israel. He said the PLO struggle is a just one, and it is confident of victory.

Police Say No Bullets Struck Nkomo's Car

MB160901 Harare Domestic Service in English 1745 GMT 15 Jan 85

[Text] Police investigations into the alleged shooting of Dr Joshua Nkomo's vehicle during his visit to Masvingo have been completed. A police statement published today said the vehicle sustained minor dents on its body work. These dents were subjected to ballistics and forensic science examination and it has been proved that they were not made by bullets, but by some other things such as stones and bricks. Both the police and ballistics and forensic science experts have catagorically disapproved the assertion by the ZAPU leader, Dr Joshua Nkomo, that his car was shot at in Masvingo when thousands of ZANU-PF supporters demonstrated against his visit to the province.